

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

September 2025



Worship Services 9:00am

**Coffee and Fellowship
at 10:00 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

Our Savior's Lutheran Church | September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 RALLY SUNDAY 7 9:00 Worship 9:00 Facebook Live 10:00 Pancake Breakfast 11:00 Radio Broadcast	Labor Day Building and Offices Closed	1 9:00 Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	2 9:30 Bible Study	3 4:30 Exec Team	4 Pastor's Sabbath	5 7:30 am Men's Bible Study
RALLY SUNDAY 7 9:00 Worship 9:00 Facebook Live 10:00 Pancake Breakfast 11:00 Radio Broadcast	8 9:00 Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	9 9:00 Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	10 9:30 Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation Parents Mtg - Faith 7:00 Committees 8:00 Council	11 7:30 am Men's Bible Study	12 Pastor's Sabbath	13 7:30 am Men's Bible Study
14 9:00 Worship 9:00 Facebook Live 10:00 Coffee & Fellowship 10:00-10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Radio Broadcast 11:15 Worship KNF	15 6:30 PEO	16 9:00 Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	17 9:30 Bible Study 8:00 Sr High Group	18 7:30 am Men's Bible Study	19 Pastor's Sabbath	20 7:30 am Men's Bible Study
21 9:00 Worship 9:00 Facebook Live 10:00 Special Congregational Meeting 10:00-10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Radio Broadcast 11:15 Worship KNF	22 9:00 Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	23 9:00 Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	24 9:30 Bible Study	25 Pastor's Sabbath	26 7:30 am Men's Bible Study	27 7:30 am Men's Bible Study
28 9:00 Worship 9:00 Facebook Live 10:00 Coffee & Fellowship 10:00-10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Radio Broadcast	29 9:00 Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	30 9:00 Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study				

September 2025

"Endless activity is not God's plan for your life."

Years ago, during chaplain training, I walked with my supervisor through a quiet hospital corridor. We had finished an emergency room spiritual care debrief and "shop talk" when we got to talking about non-work life. We each shared about our plans for the season ahead: family activities, professional responsibilities and projects, exciting new dreams of home ownership (and accompanying fix-its). During our verbal back-and-forth, I must have done more talking. After a while, my supervisor, who soon became a friend said, "Endless activity is *not* God's plan for your life." (The italicized "not" means he put a lot of emphasis on that word).

Just like that truth again entered my life.

Don't get me wrong. I like activities and variety that life offers. And Fall is a natural time for activities and variety to resume for many people. I also notice that if I get too busy, then I get wobbly; spiritually, physically, almost any way. I've found that living life with endless activity is kind of like riding a bike with a bent wheel. I may get where I want to go, but I will get overly frustrated and probably look pretty ridiculous.

"Endless activity is not God's plan for your life." Those words were, and are, so true. What makes them true is not just that I can relate to them, nor that a trusted person spoke them to me. I believe they are true because they communicate a truth about God, from God (through my supervisor's words). God rested on the 7th day of creation (see the book of Genesis, chapter 1 and chapter 2, verses 1-3 for that). God brought order out of the chaos of whatever was around before the world and universe as we know it came to be as it is. After all the work, and I mean *work*, God built *rest* into the very order of creation. God built rest into "time" (itself a creation - cool, right). Rest has a special, set apart, divine character about it.

Many of us have an increase of activity starting in the fall; church life included. It can take a few weeks to get into the schedules, the feel of a new and familiar kind of life. As your new season of autumn, fall, school, however you call it begins, remember to again notice each day, the sky, the sun, moon, stars, (a reading of Psalm 8 is a good pondering to accompany what you see). Take a few minutes to notice all that God has created – rest, even. One of the best places to have a time of rest is to join your fellow Our Savior's people on Sunday – to thank to God for God's love for us, to be strengthened and supported in life and faith, and discover again how important rest can be.

Would you consider adding a line to your conversations, one I don't hear often? How about something along the lines of, "We're resting this week, too" (or some version of that). Do we think we need to be busier than God and not have a day of rest?

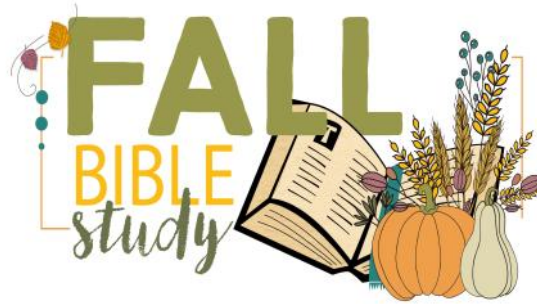
See you at church. Remember, endless activity is not God's plan for your, and my, life.

Peace,

Pr. Rich



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.



Congregation members should have re-
ceived a letter from the Church Council
regarding a special meeting to be held
on September 21st at 10:15 (right after
worship). This letter details the recom-
mendations the Council has made re-
garding staffing as we move forward in
our search for a new Lead Pastor. There will also be discussion ses-
sions during Coffee and Fellowship following the worship services on
September 7th and 14th where Margaret Dahlberg, Council Presi-
dent, will answer questions and share information to help everyone
understand the decisions the Council has made.

SEASONAL RESPIRATORY CLINIC

The City-County Health Dis-
trict has set a tentative date
of
October 19th at 10:15
for our clinic here at OSLC.
Keep an eye out for further
details.

FLU SHOT **CLINIC**

The vaccine will be available for all in-
dividuals 6 months of age and older.
The COVID-19 will also be available at
the clinic and administered per CDC
recommendations. You will need to
bring your insurance card to the clinic.
A sign-up sheet will be provided closer
to the clinic date.



Faith Lutheran Church

309 4th St NE
Valley City, ND 58072

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

EVENTS



Thursday, September 25
Preparing for an Emergency



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 - September 2025

How was your summer? Did you accomplish the summer plans you made, or were you constantly changing and readjusting those plans? Anyone who knows me well knows that I'm a list-maker. I had major plans and small plans on my summer agenda. And I happily failed some of them. I was told that when I retired, I would have all the time in the world and that I would get bored. Do not believe that for a minute.

Thankfully, life happens and we adjust to whatever life throws at us.

As your treasurer I see where we also have to adjust our spending to accommodate the giving. OSLC's council members take their positions very seriously. This summer we scrutinized our approved budget to look for areas that may need changes. Thankfully, there weren't a lot of them in our general upkeep. By now you have received a letter from OSLC on a possible pastoral change. Please pray about this and plan to attend at least one of the discussion sessions during coffee hour on September 7 or September 14 and the special congregational meeting on September 21.

I was in Minneapolis visiting family this August, and the pets welcomed me back with enthusiasm. However, Neighborhood George visited me twice during my first night back announcing that he was put out with me. I didn't realize he could meow so loudly! I'm sure he wasn't allowed in the house while I was gone. I wouldn't like to think that we would do that to any of our church visitors. Let's remember to be welcoming to all who enter Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

Please enjoy the remainder of the summer and as we fall into our autumn routines, let us be thankful for each day God gives us. I appreciate all the ways you support me and my work for Our Saviors!

Blessings to all of you!

Janet Brown





HONEY SUNDAY

Honey Sundays, hosted by congregations across the United States, support the residential treatment and educational programs at Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. Purchase a bottle of honey to change the life of a child.

**Honey Sundays
September 28th and October 5**

Watch for bulletin insert and table set up in the Gathering Room after worship



Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch is a Christ-centered residential treatment and educational center for children and their families. We help the most troubled, complicated, and amazing kids by providing best-in-class psychiatric therapy and trauma-informed care, where we look kids in the eye, walk with them, and help them become their best selves.

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch is a Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), an Affiliated Social Ministry Organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), a Mission Partner of the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC), a founding member of Lutheran Services in America (LSA), and a Partner Ministry of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC).

The mission of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch is to help at-risk children and their families succeed in the name of Christ.

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch

P.O. Box 5007

Minot, ND 58702

1-800-344-0957 • DakotaRanch.org



Viking Football Meal | Sunday, August 25th





EASTERN FALL YOUTH RETREAT ... SEPTEMBER 26-28

The Eastern Synod of North Dakota is hosting a Fall Youth Retreat at the Castaway Club Friday, September 26th through Sunday, September 28th. This retreat is geared towards students in grades 6-10. As in prior years, Our Savior's Youth will be joining the kids from Trinity and Faith.

The weekend focuses on Galatians 6:10 - "Let us do good to all..." - this retreat invites us to live our faith out loud in a world that longs for compassion, courage, and creativity. Presenting will be Pastor Emily Harkins of The Dwelling in Winston-Salem, ND—a bold and inclusive church without walls that walks alongside people experiencing homelessness. Pastor Emily brings a deep passion for justice, community, and the kind of faith that shows up in real and radical ways. Don't miss this unforgettable weekend filled with connection, purpose and a whole lot of good.



Pr Nicholas and Pr Rich will be attending the Eastern ND Synod Fall Theological Conference, September 8-10, at Fair Hills Resort near Detroit Lakes, MN. The conference will include presenters focusing on how Christians can live as people connected to each other in a world that can be more and more disconnected. Presentations, conference meetings, worship, conversations, time with colleagues, and presentations from church leaders, are all part of the agenda. The pastors look forward to attending the conference and bringing what they learn to the congregation.



President's Corner – August 2025

At the most recent meeting of our Church Council, on August 13, Council members voted unanimously to recommend termination of the position of Associate Pastor, to be replaced by a $\frac{3}{4}$ time Director of Christian Education and Social Outreach who will manage Sunday School, Youth programs, Adult Education, and who will support the various efforts of our church committees. This decision was made after careful analysis of data, thoughtful consideration of our church's mission, goals, and finances, and extended conversation with representatives from the Eastern ND Synod office. The following issues lie at the heart of the decision:

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.

The Council set a special meeting of the Congregation for September 21, at 10:15 (right after worship), at which time we will discuss and take action on the Council's recommendation.

To allow for extended conversation, the Council further set two informal discussion sessions for September 7 and 14 after worship, where members can bring their questions, concerns, and suggestions prior to the special meeting.

In other actions, the Council noted the following events in the life of our congregation:

Deaths/Burials: Bonnie Burchill; Jim Manstrom

Weddings: Cole McGough & Kacee White

Transfer Out: Noah Haglund

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

Submitted by Margaret Dahlberg, Council President



OSLC YOUTH

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS will take place during worship on **September 7th**. This is for all students, teachers and educational workers to bring their school backpacks, bags and computer bags for a blessing. Worship that day will be followed by a pancake breakfast.



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

7th - 12th

CONFIRMATION FOR 7th – 9th GRADERS:

Confirmation classes will also begin in September. **A meeting for parents and students will be held on September 10th at 6:30 at Faith Lutheran Church.** 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.