



# PARTNERS



JULY 2023

VOLUME 35 ISSUE 7



*The house of the wicked will be destroyed, but the tent of the upright will flourish.*  
**Proverbs 14:11**

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

**John 10:10**

What if I told you that there was a supplement that would transform your life: it would give you a longer and happier life; it would make your family life richer and more fulfilling; it would make you wiser and more discerning, as well as, healthier and more energetic. Add to those positive benefits that, initially, you didn't have to buy the pill. You could take the supplement and then donate the amount of money and time you thought the supplement was worth.

Sadly, there is no such pill. However there is a single habit or practice that provides all those benefits and many more. It is the habit of an active religious faith. Rodney Stark, a leading Sociologist at Baylor University, in his book ***America's Blessings: How Religion Benefits Everyone, Including Atheists*** has gathered scores of scientific studies that point to the positive benefits of religious faith. Here is a very partial list of the benefits:

- Enjoy superior mental health – are deemed happier, less neurotic, and far less likely to commit suicide
- Enjoy superior physical health – have an average life expectancy more than seven years longer than that of the irreligious
- Read more than their irreligious friends and neighbors
- More apt to marry, less likely to divorce, and report higher degrees of satisfaction with their spouse.
- Religious husbands are far less likely to abuse their wives or children.
- Religious fathers are more likely to be involved in youth-related activities such as coaching sports teams or leading Scout troops, etc.
- Religious couples enjoy their sex lives more. They are also far less likely to have an affair.
- Religious students perform better on standardized achievement tests, are far less likely to drop out of school, obtain better jobs upon graduation, and are far less likely to be on unemployment.

All of these stats prove that what the Bible's counsel is indeed wise counsel. Jesus' promise that a relationship with him leads to a fuller, healthier life is genuine.

We have something to share. At times we Christians have been shy about sharing our faith. We are afraid that we might be perceived as rude or fanatical. However, if we had some health supplement that would give us the above-mentioned benefits, we would certainly be telling others. In this time, when many seem to be drifting away from the faith, we need to share our faith and point to the apparent benefits of a life of faith. You might start by sharing this article with someone you know who is not a person of faith or is not actively participating in their faith.

Next Month How can we better support and nurture our Faith for the God of our neighborhoods, communities and Society as a whole

Be Hope-filled, Stay Strong and God Bless,

Pastor Carl

**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
June 7, 2023**

*These minutes were recorded at the last council meeting and will be approved at the next meeting.*

The OSLC Church Council met for its monthly meeting on June 7, 2023 in fellowship hall. Members present were Kevin Graff, Kari Halter, Deb Furth, John Smith, Janice Werner, Steve Halter, Courtney Thram, Kurt Willhite, Brian Benedict, and Pastor Carl Billings.

President Graff called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and Pastor Carl led the group in prayer.

Secretary's Report: May council minutes were read by Deb. Corrections to secretary's report – Pastor prefers to use the CEV version of the Bible, not the ESV. Typo error in call committee report corrected the word "form" to the word "from". John moved and Steve seconded to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Kari reported the May checking balance of \$40,427.10 and savings balance of \$45,921.05. On a motion by Kurt and seconded by Courtney, the report was approved. Motion carried. There was a question about funds available in trust for room dividers in fellowship hall. Kevin will check with Rich on this matter.

Pastor's Report: Pastor had two baptisms; communion services at Valley View in May and June; six personal communions; met with Life, Growth & Stewardship to put together a visitation team; attended a class on intentional interim ministry; baccalaureate. He will be attending a meeting of area churches to discuss pastoral vacancies on Wednesday, June 28 at St. Paul's in Springfield. Pastor Randy Freune will head up this meeting. Pastor asked for some people to accompany him to this meeting. Bible, Burgers and Brews starts this week, Thursday, June 8 at 7:10 PM. The theme will be Re-creation. Pastor's schedule for June in Lambertton: here June 7 – 18, June 22-24, June 28-July 2. He has also been asked to lead a trip to the Holy Land, Egypt, and Greece June 22-July 1, 2024. He shared information about this trip and if anyone is interested in attending, they can contact him. Pastor should submit mileage for visits and class on interim ministry reimbursements.

**Committee Reports**

Education: Courtney reported VBS is ready to start on Sunday, June 11 through Thursday, June 15 from 6 to 8 PM. Courtney also asked if there was a schedule for defogging the church basement for bugs as there are quite a few spiders and bugs down there. She was directed to try to get that done when there is no heat or air conditioning being used.

Worship and Music: Janice reported no meeting and she will continue to look into a new refrigerator for the altar guild room.

Life, Growth & Stewardship: Kurt reported they met on June 1. They discussed care teams and names of people to contact to serve on the teams. Lenten meals went well and plans are to do it again next year. The Welcome packet is finalized and some have been put in the city office and in the entry of the church. The first Sound Bites were put in the last newsletter. They discussed mission emphasis for months coming. The ice cream social will be July 19, 2023 from 5 to 7 PM. Kurt is facilitating this event and will look for volunteers to help. Rally Day will be September 10, 2023.

Property: Brian reported that he had talked to Joan Blomgren about the divider at the school. She recommended that the dividers go all the way to the ceiling for noise cancellation. A discussion of the future of this project and the needs we have for that followed.

**Old Business**

Pastor Steve Walswick visit June 24 & 25: Pastor and his family will arrive on Saturday, June 24 and meet first with Pastor Carl. Members of the call committee and council will show them the parsonage and take them out to supper in Revere and Pastor Steve will conduct the service on Sunday, June 25. Pastor Carl listed some concerns about some light bulbs at the parsonage. His wife sewed some simple drapes for one of the bedrooms to block incoming sunlight. John moved to proceed with a background check on Pastor Walswick as part of the call process. Kurt seconded. Motion carried.

Drone Class using parking lot: Leonard Runck asked if the Red Rock Central drone class could use our church parking lot. Council members were contacted through a group text and Ok'd this request.

*Council Minutes Continued*

A/C nests resolved: A family of birds that built a nest in the air conditioner in the pastor's office window was removed. In the future, some better air condition covers should be made.

**New Business**

Burgers, Bibles and Brew: Begins Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 7:10 PM. Come early to eat. Sessions will last about 30 to 40 minutes.

Ice Cream Social: See Life, Growth and Stewardship report.

Pastor reimbursement for extra days whenever needed: Deb moved to reimburse Pastor Carl for extra days spent in Lambertton whenever needed. Steve seconded. Motion carried. Kari will work out compensation for those days using the contract we have with him as a guide.

**Communion Assistants**

June 11<sup>th</sup> – John and Steve  
July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Deb and Steve

**Adjournment:** With no further business to conduct, Pastor Carl closed with a prayer, followed by the Lord's Prayer. Brian moved to adjourn and Steve seconded. Motion carried. Next council meeting will be Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 7 PM. Meeting ended 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deb Furth  
Council Secretary

**JULY MISSION EMPHASIS**

**~RRC School Supplies—Financial Aid~**



This has been a well-supported mission to aid RRC in making sure all students have the supplies they need to be successful in their school work. We receive a list of needed supplies from the school and go shopping for them after we have received mission donations during the month of July. Please consider helping the children and families in our community.

You can pick up a blue envelope in the pew or use your own envelope and write "missions" on it to designate for mission giving. You may also give your donation online via our website or use the link below and select 'mission'.

<https://oslclamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>

Your contributions are greatly appreciated!!

**Thanks for your support!**



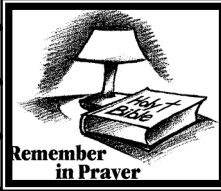
*You are cordially invited to  
Our Savior's Annual Ice Cream Social on  
Wednesday, July 19th from 5-7 pm.*



*The menu will include hot dogs, sloppy joes, potato salad, baked beans, potato chips, pickles, coffee and lemonade.*

*We will have ice cream with the toppings and root beer floats! Yum!*

*Bring the whole family and socialize with your friends and neighbors in air conditioning comfort! Take-outs Available!*



Please note our list of people needing our prayers regularly. This list is much more complete since it addresses ongoing issues while the Sunday bulletin list is aimed at more immediate concerns. We ask that you would keep all these people in your prayers each day.

- Harlan Halter (health issues)
- Kim Churchill Oelfke (stroke & cancer)
- Vicki Churchill Schenk (cancer treatments)
- Maria Bedner (stage 4 ovarian cancer)
- Briana Halter Peterson (health concerns)
- Randy Hammerschmidt (health issues)

Pray for people affected other disasters ...



**BUDGET RECAP**  
as of 6/18/2023

<b>Total Outstanding:</b>	
Accounts Payable	\$0
Estimated Payroll	\$4,000.00
<b>Income:</b>	
5/21/23— 6/18/23	\$6,804.35
In Checking Acct.	\$37,340.10
In Savings Acct.	\$45,921.05
<b>Needed weekly to Meet budget</b>	<b>\$3,200.00</b>

**Online Giving**

To assist you with your stewardship ministry, you may make a gift online! You may visit our website or use the link.

<https://oslclamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>

You may still mail checks to the church office.  
*\*Address found on last page of newsletter.*



**PRAYER CHAIN**

If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along to the Prayer Chain, please contact Judy Kuehl, 507-822-1716, or the church office. Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer chain and/or included in Sunday morning prayers which will be included for two (2) Sundays unless request is renewed. Thank you.

**Media System Operator Schedule**

July 2, 2023	Jodi Smith (507-360-8326)
July 9, 2023	Ethan Willhite (507-640-0421)
July 16, 2023	Carter Beranek (507-822-4575)
July 23, 2023	Val Halter (507-276-0008)
July 30, 2023	Sam Furth (507-227-7666)

**JULY USHER SCHEDULE**

- John Luttman
- Travis Vollmer
- Austin Imker
- Isaac Anderson



Jeff Coulter—Sub



**TAXI**

Please call an usher by Fridays for a ride!

**Thrivent Choice Dollars**

As always, Our Savior's Lutheran Church is grateful for your consideration when you make charitable giving plans. If you are a Thrivent Financial member eligible to direct Choice Dollars, we ask you to consider our congregation as you help direct Thrivent Financial's charitable funds. For more information about how to designate Choice Dollars visit: [Thrivent.com/choicevote](http://Thrivent.com/choicevote) or call 800-847-4836.





Wishing You a  
**Happy Birthday!** July Birthdays

- 1st - Todd Anderson, Roger Pfarr
- 2nd - Samuel Dammann, Chloe Casey
- 4th - Tyler Denham, Jerry Field, Ed Jeckell, Maison Price
- 5th - Courtney Thram, Kevin Juhnke
- 6th - Nicole Kramin
- 7th - David Irlbeck
- 8th - Kari Halter, Yvonne Halter, Dakota Menter
- 10th - Doug Brand, Brad Senst, Casen Churchill
- 11th - Brittany Matter, Eva Redman, Ethan Willhite
- 12th - Conner Bottger
- 13th - Deb Furth, Julie Senst
- 14th - Danielle Schrupp, Abigail Thram
- 15th - Bridget Arkell, Tyler Horning
- 16th - Gavin Hesse, Hudson Hacker, Grayson Kenney
- 17th - Jess Bittner, Taylor Mattison, Rick Manthei
- 19th - Gary Polkow
- 21st - John Luttmann
- 22nd - Tim Furth, Kent Teveldal, Addyson Marozik
- 23rd - Judy Kuehl, Paige Wondercheck, Chris Paplow, Wrenley Senst, Oaklynn Knutson
- 24th - Ed Erickson, Jr.,
- 25th - Ginnie Waldriff, Abby Pistulka, Serenity Schrupp, Tucker Juhnke
- 26th - Allison Sauer, Camden Churchill
- 27th - Julie Kircher,
- 28th - Harlan Halter, Janice Werner, Ty Jeckell, Brantley Halter
- 29th - Jeff Coulter, David Jaeger
- 30th - Tony Sauer
- 31st - Dulcie Brand, Douglas Iverson, Avery Kenney

*July* Anniversary Celebration

- 9th - Michael & Megan Watercott  
Bill & LeeAnn Barrie
- 11th - Travis & Corrie Vollmer
- 13th - Kirk & Savanna Engen
- 15th - Guy & Marie Dammann
- 16th - Steven & Emily Tammen
- 17th - Doug & Linda Brand
- 18th - Floyd & Doris Bottom,  
Andrew & Claryssa Olson  
Dave & Lisa Prechel
- 30th - John & Jodi Smith

**JULY ACOLYTE & VIDEO SCHEDULE**  
**9:00 A.M. Worship Service**

**July 2, 2023**  
Sophie Paplow & Kysha Wani  
**Video:** Treyton Knutson

**July 9, 2023**  
Marshal Willhite & Colton Jeckell  
**Video:** Max Erickson

**July 16, 2023**  
Dawson Mariner  
**Video:** \_\_\_\_\_

**July 23, 2023**  
Aron Van Meveren  
**Video:** Austin Werner

**July 30, 2023**  
Aron Van Meveren  
**Video:** Braylon Bedner



Please remember it is your responsibility to find a replacement for your designated worship service. Thank you!!

**Media System Operator Schedule**

Thank you for providing this valuable service to Our Savior's! If you cannot keep your appointed date please find a replacement operator. All the phone numbers have been included below for your convenience.  
Sub list: Char Graff & Charlie Dammann (507-822-3163)

July 2, 2023	Jodi Smith (507-360-8326)
July 9, 2023	Ethan Willhite (507-640-0421)
July 16, 2023	Carter Beranek (507-822-4575)
July 23, 2023	Val Halter (507-276-0008)
July 30, 2023	Sam Furth (507-227-7666)
August 6, 2023	Trenton Blomgren (507-822-6571)
August 13, 2023	Jodi Smith (507-360-8326)
August 20, 2023	Ethan Willhite (507-640-0421)
August 27, 2023	Carter Beranek (507-822-4575)
September 3, 2023	Val Halter (507-276-0008)
September 10, 2023	Sam Furth (507-227-7666)
September 17, 2023	Val Halter (507-276-0008)
September 24, 2023	Trenton Blomgren (507-822-6571)
October 1, 2023	Char Graff (507-829-0105)
October 8, 2023	Char Graff (507-829-0105)
October 15, 2023	Char Graff (507-829-0105)
October 22, 2023	Char Graff (507-829-0105)
October 29, 2023	Char Graff (507-829-0105)
November 5, 2023	Jodi Smith (507-360-8326)
November 12, 2023	Ethan Willhite (507-640-0421)
November 19, 2023	Carter Beranek (507-822-4575)
Thanksgiving Eve Wed 11/22/23	Char Graff (507-829-0105)
November 26, 2023	Val Halter (507-276-0008)
December 3, 2023	Sam Furth (507-227-7666)
December 10, 2023	Trenton Blomgren (507-822-6571)
December 17, 2023	Jodi Smith (507-360-8326)
12/24/2023 9am	Char Graff (507-829-0105)
12/24/2023 7pm	Ethan Willhite (507-640-0421)
December 31, 2023	Carter Beranek (507-822-4575)

**BOARD OF ED NEWS:**

**Thank You  
VBS  
Volunteers!!**



Thank you to all the volunteers - teachers, group leaders, sandwich makers, and more and to the youth for their positive energy each night for making a very successful 2023 Backstage With The Bible VBS program! Thank you to all the parents who made it a priority to share your children with us for the week!

**VBS Coin Battle Winners**



The big winner of the coin battle this year is the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation!

**Are you a Thrivent member?**

You can now direct your choice dollars to support the RRC Student Honor Loan Chapter. The Student Honor Loan Chapter provides scholarships and interest-free loans to graduating seniors at RRC each year.  
[thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice](http://thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice)

**~ Hospitalized ~**

Because of privacy laws, a phone call from a family member or friend is the best way to make sure the pastor is notified if you or a loved one are hospitalized or in a nursing home or would like a pastoral visit.



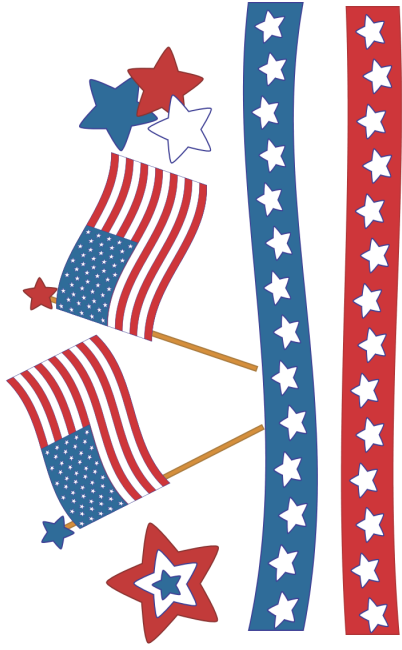
**LUTHER LEAGUE NEWS**

We hope everyone is enjoying their summer. Luther League doesn't meet in the summers, however, Valleyfair permission slips were sent out, there is a box in the church kitchen for you to put the permission slips into. I will be picking them up July 21st with NO exceptions for late entries. Thank you and God Bless.



**JULY ALTAR GUILD**





Judy Dagner  
Sandy Danielowski



# JULY



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Please have your bulletin announcements into the Church Office by 10 A.M. on Tuesdays! THANKS!						
2 9:00 Worship/Communion	3 <b>Offices Closed</b>	4 <b>Offices Closed</b>  Happy 4th of July	5 7:00 Church Council	6 7:10 Bibles, Burgers & Brew @ Legion	7 <b>Church Office Closed</b> 9:30 VVM Services	8
9 9:00 Worship/Communion	10 <b>Offices Closed</b>	11	12	13 7:10 Bibles, Burgers & Brew @ Legion	14 <b>Church Office Closed</b>	15
16 9:00 Contemporary Worship Gideon Speaker Baptism of Harlow Rae Neperman	17 <b>Offices Closed</b>	18	19 5:00-7:00 ICE CREAM SOCIAL	20 7:10 Bibles, Burgers & Brew @ Legion	21 <b>Church Office Closed</b>	22
23 9:00 Worship Caring Callers Training Session	24 <b>Offices Closed</b> <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Articles Due!</b>	25	26	27 7:10 Bibles, Burgers & Brew @ Legion	28 <b>Church Office Closed</b>	29
30 9:00 Worship	31 <b>Offices Closed</b>					

**OUR SAVIOR'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
805 BIRCH ST  
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LAMBERTON, MN 56152-0067  
507/752-7334**



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## **PARTNERS**

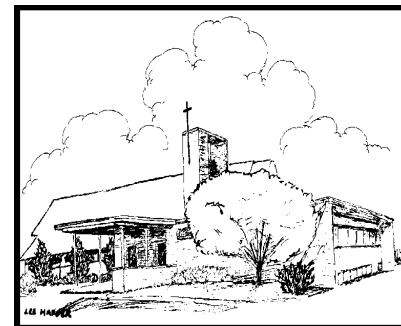
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**Pastor Carl Billings,  
Interim**  
Pastor Carl's Cell Phone: 763-360-7126  
Pastor Carl's E-mail: carlbillings@me.com

**Church Office Hours:**  
9 a.m.-Noon, 1-4p.m. Tues-Thurs  
Church Phone: 752-7334  
Church Email: oslclamberton@centurytel.net  
Website: www.oslclamberton.com

**Worship Services:**  
Sundays: 9:00 A.M.  
Sunday School  
10:00 A.M. (Sept.-

**Cable Broadcast of Services:**  
Lamberton -WED: 4:00 P.M.  
Springfield -Wednesday:  
6:00 P.M.



**The Mission of Our Savior's Lutheran Church is to demonstrate Christ's Spirit through worship, witnessing, and ministry to the needs of the people of this church and the community.**

**Please have bulletins announcements into the church office by 10am Tuesday mornings.**

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**Please have your Newsletter articles and/or calendar items into the church office as designated on the monthly calendar.**