



PARTNERS



SEPTEMBER 2023

VOLUME 35 ISSUE 9

First Impressions



"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20

At the beginning of John's gospel, Jesus makes quite a first impression! After the prologue, chapter 1 verses one through 18, John continues to unfold the beginning of Jesus's adult ministry. In Chapter 1:35 Jesus gives his first statement in the gospel which is actually a question, "What do you seek?"

As a pastor, this is a pivotal question and one that should weigh heavily on how I conduct a ministry in the name of Christ. One of the great questions we as pastors can ask is: "What do you seek?" In present day English it may sound more like the following. What do you want? What are you striving after? What is your greatest desire?

Jesus has a few ideas in mind as to answers people might give. Initially, he's asking if the people are seeking after the law? As those who had been raised to appreciate and understand the law, all of Jesus' early followers would've spent their entire childhood striving to maintain discipline and observe the law. Jesus came in a large part to rid us of that desire, and to replace it with one that is much different. This desire is not to do something *for God* but rather to allow God to do something *for you*. God sent his son to die for you so that your salvation does not rest on your behavior, but rather on the finished work of Christ. Therefore, when Jesus asks us: "What do you seek?" Inevitably our answer should be, we seek Jesus. We seek him for forgiveness. We seek him for joy. We seek him for freedom. We seek him for life. May this be our shared vision as we minister together in and around Lambertton.

For Him,
Pastor Steve

**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
August 2, 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 August 2, 2023 in fellowship hall. Members present were Kevin Graff, Deb Furth, John Smith, Janice Werner, Steve Halter, Courtney Thram, and Pastor Carl Billings. Absent: Kurt Willhite, Brian Benedict and Kari Halter.

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

Secretary's Report: July council minutes were read by Deb. Corrections to secretary's report – Pastor prefers to use the ESV version of the Bible, not the CEV (I hope I have it right now). Typo error in old business "results of rural pastors meeting in Springfield" referring to pastoral report. #5 change to #3. Deb also read the minutes from the Congregational meeting of July 16, 2023. Steve moved and Janice seconded to approve the minutes from both meetings as corrected. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Kevin reported, in the absence of Kari, the July checking balance of \$43,220.83 and savings balance of \$45,980.85. On a motion by John and seconded by Courtney, the treasurer's report was approved. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

1. Pastoral Activities
 1. Communion Service Valley View Care Center
 2. One Personal Communion
 3. Two Pastoral Contacts
 4. Training of Caring Callers
 5. Have handed Next Summer's Wedding over to Pastor Steve

Bible, Burgers and Brews has had good start

1. So Far, I've lead Five Bible Studies for Bible Burgers and Brews.
 1. This of course includes June.

Committee Reports

Education: Courtney reported they will have a meeting next Wednesday, August 9, 2023. They will be working on Sunday School rosters and teachers for the upcoming year. The committee is all in favor of asking Storden/Jeffers to join us for confirmation.

Worship and Music: Janice reported no meeting.

Life, Growth & Stewardship: Kurt was absent and will report next month.

Property: Brian was absent, but through a phone call to Kevin reported that they are still looking into light issues at the parsonage. He checked on putting in a window for the pastor's office door at the church and found it to be a better option to just replace the whole door. We will be purchasing new faucets for the kitchen. In preparation for our new pastor moving into the parsonage, there will have to be some removal of unwanted items there. Pastor Steve will look things over and decide what he wants to keep.

Old Business

Old records in basement: This is still a work in progress.

Youth Protection Policy: Courtney passed out a form for all teachers and people working with the youth of our church to sign to be in compliance with our insurance company. We are advised to read it through and bring any concerns to the next meeting. This is for safety reasons and to protect our church.

New Business

Gideon's Service – Sept. 3; help with service – Gideon's will give the message on this Sunday. Council members and/or volunteers will conduct the rest of the service. There will be no communion on this Sunday.

Nicole vacation August 21-25 (Monday-Thursday): Nicole will be out of the office this week, but has a plan to cover her absence during that time.

Office help Sept. 8-22: Nicole will be on vacation. Will probably need some office coverage during this time. There are a few options for this and we will discuss this at our next meeting.

Council minutes continued

Pastor Steve approved – next steps Background check came back with no issues. A contract for him will be ready at our next meeting, where Pastor Steve will be present. He might need some help getting a few things moved down here from Alexandria.

Letter of recommendation for Pastor Carl: A rough draft of a letter of recommendation was presented and approved for Pastor Carl. The letter will be put on church letterhead, signed by council and given to Pastor Carl for future reference. There will be coffee and goodies after church on Sunday, August 27, as this will be Pastor Carl's last Sunday with us.

Fiber Optics: Lamberton is offering free fiber optics cables, from Clara City telephone, to buildings in Lamberton. Our church and parsonage should get on the list to have this done. Other services provided by these fiber optics will be discussed at a later time.

Communion Assistants

August 6 – Kevin and Steve
 August 13 – John and Courtney
 August 27 – Kevin and Steve (Communion this Sunday instead of the 1st Sunday in September)

Adjournment: With no further business to conduct, John moved to adjourn and Steve seconded. Motion carried. Closed with the Lord's Prayer. Next council meeting will be Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 7 PM. Meeting ended 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
 Deb Furth
 Council Secretary



BUDGET RECAP
 as of 8/13/2023

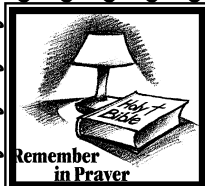
Total Outstanding:	
Accounts Payable	\$0
Estimated Payroll	\$4,000.00
Income:	
7/23/23— 8/13/23	\$5,055.45
In Checking Acct.	\$43,315.56
In Savings Acct.	\$45,980.35
Needed weekly to Meet budget	\$2,824.62

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://oslcclamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>

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



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.

- Kris Vollmer (broken fibula recovery)
- Karen Kronbach (major surgery recovery, has caring bridge site)
- Duane Erickson (lung health issues)
- 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 ...



**SUNDAY SCHOOL
ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**RALLY SUNDAY - September 10th
Sunday School at 9:00 am
Church service at 10:00 am**

September 10th is **Rally Sunday!** This means the first week of Sunday School for the year. All children who are three years old - 9th grade get to attend Sunday School. Children should meet in the front of the church at 9:00 a.m. to hear announcements and meet their teacher. We will then kick off our Sunday School year with some fun activities. Remember that church service is at 10:00 a.m. on this special Rally Sunday. Beginning on **September 17th**, Sunday School time will be after the 9 am church service from 10:00 - 10:45 am. We will begin with music in the front of the church for Nursery - 5th graders each week. We are looking forward to a great year!

Confirmation students and parents - please meet in the sanctuary at 9:00 am on Sunday, **September 10th**. Following a brief opening with the Sunday School children, there will be a meeting. You will get to meet Pastor Steve, learning more about our updated class times and confirmation requirements for the year.

Sunday School Teachers

Thank you to all who have signed up to teach Sunday School! We are still in need of teachers and substitutes. Please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board for more details and prayerfully consider giving of your time to this important service. There will be a meeting for all Sunday School teachers on Wednesday, **September 6th** at 6:30 pm. Curriculum and classroom lists will be handed out as well as our annual Child Protection training. Please let a Board of Ed member know if you cannot attend this meeting.

Teachers should attend Rally Sunday when you will meet your students and work with them on a fun project. There will be no classroom lessons on this special Sunday. Installation of teachers will be held on Rally Sunday, September 10th during the 10:00 am church service.

**Confirmation
Class Schedule**

The Board of Education spent significant time working on creating a schedule that will work best for our youth along with the new school schedule. All our youth are RRC students this year, so we took advantage of their schedule and are excited this plan will let them be active in all their activities while building time for growing in their faith.

With the number of youth in grades 7 & 8, we are combining these grades this year for their class time.

**On regular release
Wednesdays:**

**9th grade: 3:20 - 4:20 pm
7-8th grades: 4:25-5:25 pm**

On early release Wednesdays:
**9th grade: 1:35 - 2:20 pm
7-8th grades: 2:25-3:10 pm**

Classes will begin on **Wednesday, Sept. 13th**. Youth and parents should attend the Confirmation meeting on Sunday, September 8th at 9 am to learn more.



**Christmas Program
Save the Date:
December 17**

Congratulations

to the following 3rd graders who will be receiving Bibles from the board of education on Sunday, September 17:

1. Ezekiel Anderson
2. Chloe Casey
3. Cooper Churchill
4. Harper Erickson
5. Ty Jeckell
6. Kaelynn Kronbach
7. Sophie Redman



PRAYER PARTNERS WANTED:

The sign-up sheet for Prayer Partners will be passed around during church on the Sundays in September an posted on the office bulletin board. Please consider signing up and enjoy getting to know the youth of our congregation! Prayer Partners meet 4 times during the Sunday School year right after church. There is a time for visiting along with a snack. We supply an activity or coloring sheet to do while you visit and get to know your partner. This year's dates are Oct. 15th, Nov. 12th, Feb. 4th, and March 24th. Our Sunday School children really enjoy this time and look forward to this. Please sign up!



Kid-Friendly Worship!

Children are welcome to worship at Our Savior's! Children's Bulletins provided every Sunday, and a Children's Message during each worship service. A nursery with a window to the sanctuary is provided in case your child needs a quiet place to rest or play.



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

September 3, 2023

Max Erickson & Jadyn Beranek
Video: Braylon Bedner

**September 10, 2023
10:00 A.M.**

Treyton Knutson & Sopia Paplow
Video: Austin Werner

September 17, 2023

Dawson Mariner
Video:

September 24, 2023

Kysha Wani
Video: Colton Jeckell

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



SEPTEMBER ALTAR GUILD

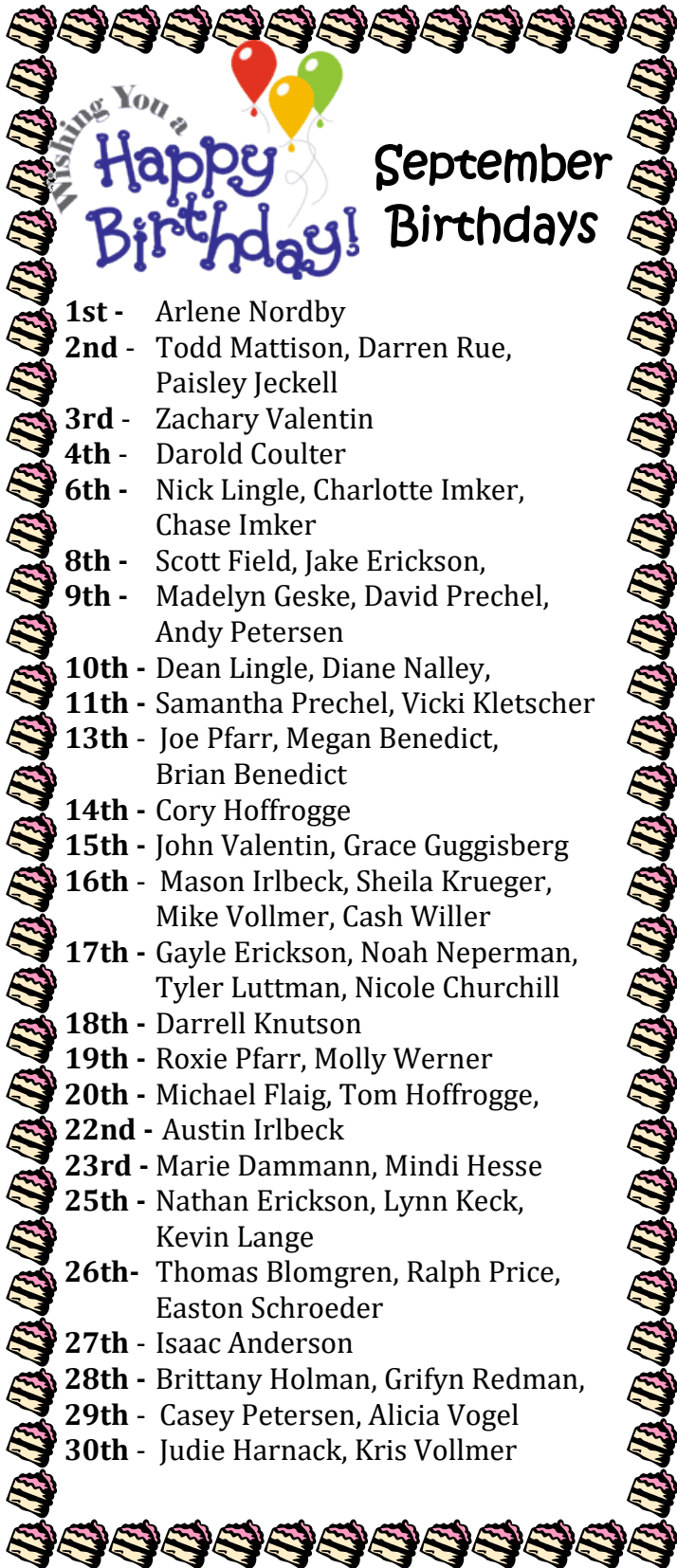
Bridget Arkell
Leah Teveldal

Luther League Advisors Needed!

With no new, additional advisors, Luther League is looking to start around November or December.

If you are interested in joining their team to help the 7th-12th graders learn and grow in their faith, please contact Kari Redman or the church office. Thank you!!





Wishing You a
Happy Birthday!

September Birthdays

- 1st - Arlene Nordby
- 2nd - Todd Mattison, Darren Rue, Paisley Jeckell
- 3rd - Zachary Valentin
- 4th - Darold Coulter
- 6th - Nick Lingle, Charlotte Imker, Chase Imker
- 8th - Scott Field, Jake Erickson,
- 9th - Madelyn Geske, David Prechel, Andy Petersen
- 10th - Dean Lingle, Diane Nalley,
- 11th - Samantha Prechel, Vicki Kletscher
- 13th - Joe Pfarr, Megan Benedict, Brian Benedict
- 14th - Cory Hoffrogge
- 15th - John Valentin, Grace Guggisberg
- 16th - Mason Irlbeck, Sheila Krueger, Mike Vollmer, Cash Willer
- 17th - Gayle Erickson, Noah Neperman, Tyler Luttmann, Nicole Churchill
- 18th - Darrell Knutson
- 19th - Roxie Pfarr, Molly Werner
- 20th - Michael Flaig, Tom Hoffrogge,
- 22nd - Austin Irlbeck
- 23rd - Marie Dammann, Mindi Hesse
- 25th - Nathan Erickson, Lynn Keck, Kevin Lange
- 26th - Thomas Blomgren, Ralph Price, Easton Schroeder
- 27th - Isaac Anderson
- 28th - Brittany Holman, Grifyn Redman,
- 29th - Casey Petersen, Alicia Vogel
- 30th - Judie Harnack, Kris Vollmer



September Anniversary Celebration


- 1st - Nick & Heather Hacker
- 6th - Roger & Sandy Polkow
- 7th - Clayton & Emily Senst
- 10th - Tony & Allison Sauer
- 11th - Nathan & Sally Erickson
- 14th - Michael & Kari Redman
- 15th - Richard & Bridget Arkell
- 19th - Kevin & Trudi Juhnke
- 28th - Johnny & Abby Pistulka

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 or call 800-847-4836.




SEPTEMBER USHER SCHEDULE

Bob Halter
 Bowen Hesse
 Pete Valentin
 Daniel Kronbach



Sub: Cole Werner

TAXI
 Please call an Usher by Fridays for a ride!



SEPTEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS
~Support Training of a Church Planter~

Church Planting: Purpose

Planting new churches in order to effectively reach more people with the life-changing hope of the gospel is a high priority for the LCMC. That's because we believe church planting is the best strategy in transforming lives and communities. It is also a great way to inspire our current 800 congregations to be **missional** over **maintenance**. Our great desire is to help our church developers get started strong in order to not just survive, but to thrive!

As a congregation we have chosen to support The Table Ministry in Sioux Falls, SD. Erica Varcoe is their leader.

If you desire to support our mission, please use the blue envelopes provided in the pews and mark the envelopes, "Church Planter." You can put them into the offering plate. 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!

Media System Operator Schedule

September 3, 2023	Jodi Smith (507-360-8326)
September 10, 2023	Sam Furth (507-227-7666)
September 17, 2023	Val Halter (507-276-0008)
September 24, 2023	Trenton Blomgren (507-822-6571)


OSW MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

Women of Our Savior's will meet
 Tuesday, September 12
 Meeting 2 p.m.

Election of officers will be held for the next year. Love circle has the offertory and lunch. OSLC Women, please plan to attend! It's YOUR church group!!

~ 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.



Coffee Fellowship Resumes Sept. 17th!

Coffee will be served after the worship service.

Volunteers will be needed to make the goodies and serve during coffee fellowship!

Watch for the sign-up sheet to be passed around the congregation soon!



Come and join us for Rally Sunday!!
September 10th

Following the **10:00am Worship Service** we have a **Potluck!** Hamburgers and hotdogs will be served and we invite those with last name **A-M to bring a salad** and those with last name **N-V to bring a dessert!** No one will be turned away for forgetting to bring something or bringing the wrong item! :)

"Stewardship Sound Bites"

BE A STEWARD – GOD’S WAY

“So Joseph found favor in his sight and became his personal servant, and he made him overseer over his house, and put him in charge of all that he owned.” Genesis 39:4

The life of Joseph consists of the highest of highs and the lowest of lows:

From being thrown into a pit to die one day – to being raised to second-in-command in Egypt, the mightiest nation on earth, the next.

We can identify with Joseph in many respects because we all have highs and lows. Sadly, many of us tend to neglect the Lord when things are going well, only to return to Him when we are in crisis.

When we read the story of Joseph, after he was sold by his brothers to some traders, he ended up in the household of Potiphar, an Egyptian leader. Before long, Potiphar made Joseph “*overseer of all his house and put him in charge of all he had*” (Genesis. 39:4).

Now, when Potiphar put him in charge, Joseph begins to prosper. There is no indication that Joseph takes undue credit for anything, or that he uses his prosperity to further himself. On the contrary, he continued to oversee and **steward** all that God, through Potiphar, puts into his care.

A steward? What’s that?

A steward is a manager of something or someone that does not belong to them.

Just as Joseph was, every single follower of Jesus is called to be a faithful steward, or manager, of all that He has entrusted to us.

And this goes way beyond simple management of our money. God has entrusted us with many things. As Christians, God has given us gifts, talents, and abilities that are meant to be used to bring Him glory, make disciples, and build up His church.

So, how are we doing?

Parents, God has entrusted us with children to raise and teach the truth of God’s Word, modeling for them what it means to be a faithful disciple of Christ Jesus.

Or what about where we live? Are we inviting neighbors, opening our homes, and being hospitable, so we can share the love of Christ with them?

Undergirding all of this is the fact that being a steward implies that none of what you have is your own, 1 Corinthians 4:7 says, “*What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?*”

The skills, talents, and abilities you use were given to you by God.

Even the very next breath you take is provided by the King over all creation. How are you going to steward it?

When we take those things that the world deems will give us status and prestige – money, abilities, power and we steward them as Christ would have us steward them, it shows an unbelieving world the value of Christ, that He is our treasure.

Joseph showed us how to “steward” for the glory of God.

Will we do the same? For none other than the glory of God?

Let it be so, Lord.

<https://rightfromtheheart.org/devotions/be-a-steward-gods-way/>

September

LEARNING IS FUN!

2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Please have your bulletin announcements into the Church Office by 10 A.M. on Tuesdays! THANKS!						
3 9:00 Worship/Communion	4 <i>Offices Closed</i> 	5	6 6:30 SS Teacher/Helper Meeting 7:00 Church Council	7	8 <i>Offices Closed</i>	9
10 RALLY SUNDAY 9:00 A.M. Sunday School Confirmants & Parents' Meeting (Everyone meets in the Sanctuary) 10:00 Worship/Communion Installation of Teachers Potluck Food & Fellowship 	11 <i>Offices Closed</i>	12 1:30 OSW Exec. Bd 2:00 OSW Meeting	13 3:20 9th Grade Confirmation 4:25 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation	14	15 <i>Offices Closed</i>	16
17 9:00 Contemporary Worship 3rd Graders receive Bibles Baptism of Lydia Benedict 10:00 Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship	18 <i>Offices Closed</i>	19	20 1:35 9th Grade Confirmation 2:25 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation	21	22 <i>Offices Closed</i>	23
24 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship	25 <i>Offices Closed</i> 8:00 A.M. Newsletter Articles Due!	26	27 3:20 9th Grade Confirmation 4:25 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation	28	29 <i>Offices Closed</i>	30

Please Note: Nicole is on vacation the week of September 11th & 18th. If you need something from the church office, please plan ahead. Thank you!

**OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
805 BIRCH ST
P.O. BOX 67
LAMBERTON, MN 56152-
0067**



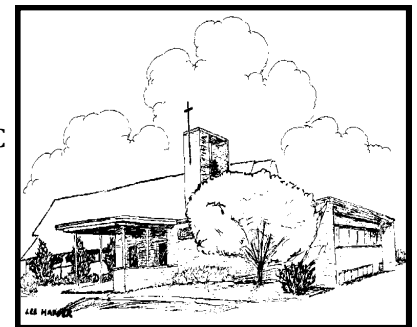
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PARTNERS

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Lamberton, Minnesota 56152-0067



Pastor Steve Walswick

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9 a.m.-Noon, 1-4p.m. Tues-Thurs
Church Phone: 752-7334
Church Fax: 752-7045
Church Email: oslclamberton@centurytel.net
Website: www.oslclamberton.com



Cable Broadcast of Services:

Lamberton - Wednesday: 4:00 P.M.
Springfield - Wednesday: 6:00 P.M.

Worship Services:

Sundays: 9:00 A.M.
Sunday School: 10:00 A.M.
(Sept.-May)



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 articles into the church office by 10am Tuesdays mornings.

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