Our Savior’s

Lutheran Church

July 2019 Newsletter

*Our Savior’s Mission Statement*

Using God’s Word as a foundation, Our Savior’s Lutheran shall, through meaningful worship, study, prayer and mission outreach, provide a Christ-centered atmosphere of enthusiasm, support, sensitivity and openness to all people.

*God’s people find a place of belonging, God’s people devoted to seek God’s purposes, God’s people committed to compassionate caring.*

Dear Members of OSL,

As many of you know my home congregation is Our Savior's Lutheran in Austin, MN.

Right before Ash Wednesday of 2018 the Senior Pastor resigned and left on the same day. His words caused hurt and anger with the members and staff of the congregation. The associate pastor has taken a new call, another staff member has taken a ministry position in another congregation in the synod, the internship program (a seminary student each year from Luther Seminary) is on hold into 2020, and the faith leader of the Anyuak (African) worshiping community at OSL in Austin passed away from a sudden illness.

The city of Austin has transitioned into a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural community and faces issues with such change.

My name came forward in the call process and I have accepted the call as the senior pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Austin. I feel God is calling me to join with them in a Gospel ministry of healing and healthy reconciliation, change and diversity.

I was not actively seeking a new call but this was a unique situation for me to minister with my home congregation, the church that was pivotal in my faith formation.

Thank you for the ministry we have shared and the opportunity to have served you as a lead pastor.

As a faith family you have brought new and exciting ministry changes to OSL here in Spring Valley. You will continue to do so and much more with your faithful, gifted leaders and staff members. As this congregation continues to draw younger families you will grow discipleship for a new generation.

With your next lead pastor you will journey into a new chapter of Gospel ministry.

My final time of worshiping with you will be Saturday July 20th and Sunday July 21st.

God's Peace be with you as you take the next steps in your faith journey.

Micah 6:8

Pastor Mark

Reflections

with Pastor Betsy Dartt

One of my “go-to” proverbs is Proverbs 16:9: “In his heart, a person plans their course, but the Lord directs his steps.” It was on my mother’s refrigerator as a cut out from the church newsletter with one of those magnets when I was growing up. It was a reminder that when my plans met obstacles, God was still directing my steps in a better path. Over and over in my life, I have given over to prayer that God would clear the way or put a roadblock in place so that I would be attentive to God’s will. Over and over in my life, God has brought me to new ventures of hope and growth that would not have happened in my own limited plans. Not only that, God has a wonderful way of taking my inner dreams and preferences that I had not thought possible under my own efforts and turning them into something beautiful.

Our Savior’s is in a time of transition. We wish Pastor Mark God’s blessings in his new call in Austin. I am grateful for the privilege of working with him in this congregation during these last years. I believe our partnership in the Gospel has brought good things to our community. We will celebrate his ministry at Our Savior’s on his last Sunday of July 21.

The leadership of Our Savior’s on the church council together with the support of the SE MN Synod are working to make this transition time both hopeful and God-breathed. We will soon have a commitment with a full time Interim Pastor. The steps in our plans will include establishing a new call committee, refreshing our congregational site profile, and working with the Synod during the call process. Yet despite however clear our plans may seem to be, I am confident that God is determining our steps. God has a best plan for Pastor Mark and Kara. God has a best plan for Our Savior’s and our community.

Join me in regular prayer for our congregation, for our leadership, for our synod and its other congregations, for our people, and for vision of God’s good plans for us. It’s time to make plans but keep the focus on God directing our steps.

**Education Ministry**

ROAR!!

We had a great time at VBS. We served more than 50 kids during the week. We had five days, four meals, lessons, crafts, music, snacks, games and fun! We received an offering for the Ronald McDonald House totaling $211.35. Thank you to the children and their families for their generosity. We learn that through all situations God is Good! Parents should be looking for the fall calendar for Confirmation and Sunday School to arrive via email.

Blessings to all,

Gina Jahn

Part-Time Education Coordinator

[rickjahn71@gmail.com](mailto:rickjahn71@gmail.com)

507-251-1610

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The Spring Valley Area Food Shelf appreciates all donations, cash or grocery items. At OSL, items can be left in the grocery cart at the east entrance.

The. Worship Team is planning another Christmas in July, the last weekend of the month. That puts us in the mood for planning ahead to the pageants of next winter. A few are aware that the Christmas costumes we have used for the youth have been borrowed from another congregation. We are collecting fabric and ideas for sewing our own set of adult sized costumes for shepherds, kings, and angels. Linda Kruegel has volunteered to help sew but we are looking for others who could help. We could do a sewing day at church in July or some things could be created at home. If you have a willingness to donate fabric or help sew talk to Pastor Betsy or Linda.

**Thank you!**

*We want to thank everyone who helped make our 60th wedding anniversary celebration so special. Thank you for your cards, wishes and gifts. God bless you all.*

***Ray & Ruth Lemke***



We offer a round of thankful applause to all who participated in any way to make the Barbary Concert/Pancake Brunch an enjoyable and successful event!

The $1,522 proceeds from the Pancake Brunch, in addition to previously dedicated funds, brings us to the total necessary to complete the window replacement project.

**Old Time Religion at Our Savior’s**

Seventy-four people (including friends of OSL) gathered together on Sat., June 8 in worship and fellowship. The singing of favorite old hymns was accompanied by Elliott Grandall, Dennis Timmerman and Myrna Legreid. A handbell ensemble provided special music. Pastor Betsy encouraged attendees to ‘Pah-raise the Lord’ time and again as she called “That’s the Spirit” talking about the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. The loose offering of $419.00 was dedicated to Good Earth Village.

Following worship, a delicious meal was served and enjoyed by all. There were many requests to do this again.  Get ready for the **Saturday Outdoor Worship on August 10** for another time of celebration, praise, and chicken and root beer floats.

Thank you to the Caregiver Team, Worship Ministry Team members, and Harlan and Pat Bucknell for planning, implementing and clean-up. The event was supported as a Thrivent Action Team project.

**Highlights from Church Council Meeting June 9th:**

**Worship Ministry Team** Activities & Discussions: Reviewed previous services, upcoming services and services during the transition time. Scheduling worship assistants, involving youth in services and having a fundraiser for the organ in conjunction with the polka service were discussed.

**Youth Ministry Team** Activities & Discussions: No new items to report.

**Education Ministry** Team Activities & Discussions: Sunday School calendars are ready and Gina will be looking for a new Confirmation curriculum.

**Business & Stewardship Ministry Team** Activities & Discussions: Hours and duties of the Office Manager/Financial Secretary’s position, payment for Gina for the time she is dedicated to the Financial Secretary’s position, dedicated funds and QuickBooks needs.

**Membership Ministry Team** Activities & Discussions: Reviewed the Easter hospitality event, discussed the Barbary Coast concert/pancake brunch fundraiser, and discussed the movie night church event.

**Property Ministry Team** Activities & Discussions: No new items to report.

**Youth Co-Ordinator** Activities & Discussions: No new items to report.

**Education Co-Ordinator** Activities & Discussions: No new items to report.

**Old Business** Actions: No new items to report.

**New Business** --A replacement is needed for the Youth Team Council Representative --The Endowment Committee distributions were presented and approved. --The Polka Service will be October 13 with a possible fundraiser held in conjunction with it. --Pastor Mark’s letter of resignation was read and accepted.

Detailed minutes are available on the bulletin board by the Food Cart.

Next council meeting is July 14, 2019 at 10:15 Executive Meeting July 11, 2019 at 5 p.m.

--submitted by Helen House, Secretary

**Readings for July**

July 6-7

1st Reading: Isaiah 66: 10-14

Psalm: Psalm 66: 1-9

2nd Reading: Galatians 6: 1-6; 7-16

Gospel: Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

July 13-14

1st Reading: [Deuteronomy 30:9-14](https://members.sundaysandseasons.com/Home/Index/2019-7-14/0)

Psalm: Psalm 25: 1-10

2nd Reading: Colossians 1: 1-14

Gospel: Luke 10: 25-37

July 20-21

1st Reading: Genesis 18: 1-10a

Psalm: Psalm 15

2nd Reading: Colossians 1: 15-28

Gospel: Luke 10: 38-42

July 27-28

1st Reading: Genesis 18: 20-32

Psalm: Psalm138

2nd Reading: Colossians 2: 6-15

Gospel: Luke 11: 1-13

*Caring & Concerns for members & friends in Special Care Facilities:*

Spring Valley Senior Living & Rehab:

*Delores Erichsen, Eileen Freeman, Mary Jane Island (Ken Kraut’s mother), Bob & Maxine Jahn, Maxine Mlenar, Donna Rowe, Jan Christopherson*

Spring Valley Senior Living-Evergreens:

*Dorothy Hafner, Mick Rathbun, Elaine Sheldon, Florence Thorson*

Spring Valley Estates:

*Bev Jertson, Joan Baarsch*

Ostrander Care & Rehab: *Dale & Juneus Ristau, Darrell Vikse*

Grand Meadow Care Center & Rehab:

*Lester Fimon, Jack Fox*

Senior Living, Rosemount:

*Melvin Schmidt*

Wildwood Senior Living, Le Roy:

*Karilyn Reiland*

Prairie Meadows Senior Living, Kasson:

*Wil & Evelyn Mohlis*

Known to have been hospitalized in June:

Roy Christopherson and Noreen Hebig

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**Please note!**

Please remember to have family notify the church office if you are in the hospital. The privacy data laws do not allow the hospital to notify the church of your admittance.

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View our Synod’s communications, The Bridge and River Crossings, WELCA River Channels newsletter and the ELCA Prayer Ventures on our Website.

**Weather Cancellation Policy**: Worship service cancellations will be announced on KAAL-TV, channel 6; KTTC-TV, channel 10; FOX-TV, channel 47; and Face Book.

Memorials and Honorarium

**In Memory of Adah Fowler:**

*Window Fund*: Roy & Jan Christopherson

**In Memory of Kay Highum**:

*Window Fund*: Roy & Jan Christopherson

**In Memory of Peter Haack**

*General Fund*: LaVonne Knutson, Friends of Glenna,

*Windows*: Roy & Jan Christopherson

**In Memory of Jerry Willford**:

*General Fund*: Shirley Gangstad, Sharon Schmidt, Lucille Daggett,

*Choir Fund*: Lee & Carol Himle,

*Organ fund*: Roy & Jan Christopherson, Jerry’s family & friends

*Milestone Ministries:* Ken & Brenda Clark

*Lighted Cross Fund*: Marjorie Lenz

*Cemetery Fund*: Dick & Sharon Jahn

**In Memory of Glenna Vikse:**

*General Fund*: LaVonne Knutson, Bev Jertson, Sharon Schmidt, Lyle & Bonnie Kruegel, Lee & Carol Himle, Shirley Gangstad, Ryan & Wendy Thon, Don & Judy Rose, , the Plaehn Family and Friends of Glenna.

*Organ fund*: Roy & Jan Christopherson

*WELCA*: Toni Sanders, Dick & Sharon Jahn,

*Lighted Cross Fund*: Marjorie Lenz,

*Senior Choir Fund*: Elliott & Karen Grandall

*Window Fund*: Nevin & Debby Groth

*Caring Ministries*: Harlan & Turby Marchant

**In Honor of Ray & Ruth Lemke’s 60th wedding anniversary**:

*Windows fund*: Nevin & Debby Groth

*General Fund*: Shirley Gangstad, Dick & Sharon Jahn

**We are in need of volunteers to serve as scripture readers and ushers for the Saturday services. Please prayerfully consider offering your time to serve.**

**Worship Assistants Sunday** (9 am

**July 7:**Acolytes  -  Hunter Middleton &  Ira Schmidt

Altar Guild – Dawn Webster (7/6-7)

Greeters – Sharon Jahn & Lori Buchholtz

Scrip Sellers – Rylie Jacobson & Cole Kruegel

Scripture Reader –  Ann Ihrke

Videographer – Nora Jahn

**July 14:**Acolytes  -  Macie Rasmussen & Ashlyn Harwood

Altar Guild – Annette Hyland (7/13-14)

Bread Provider – JoAnn Leutink (1 loaf)

Communion – Deb Dahl & Jon Dahl, Annette Hyland

Greeters – Evelyn & Rich Apenhorst

Scrip Sellers – William Jahn & Treyton Pokorney

Scripture Reader – Jon Dahl

Videographer – Rick Jahn

**July 21:**Acolytes  -  Jacob Warren & Jackson Rowe

Altar Guild – Gladys Peterson (7/20-21)

Greeters – Lori & Dave Schlitter

Scrip Sellers – Shayla Aarsvold & Shelby Beck

Scripture Reader – Dave Schlitter

Videographer – Dan Reiland

**July 28:**Acolytes  -  Brayden Betts & McCormick Fowler

Altar Guild – Eileen Rathbun & Carol Ahern (7/27-28)

Bread Provider – JoAnn Leutink (1 loaf)

Communion – Sherry Wendt, Judy Frank, Kelvin Niemeyer

Greeters – Judy & Paul Frank

Scrip Sellers – Tessa Fox & Megan Queensland

Scripture Reader – Linda Niemeyer

Videographer – Reid Kruegel

**USHERS**: (9 am)

**Offering Counter** – Judy Frank

**Deliver Meals on Wheels** – Week of July 22-26; Kay Nelson

**Saturday Service worship assistants** (5:30)

**No information available**

*PowerPoint Operator:*

*Scripture Readers:*

*Ushers****:***

***July* Service Group Organizer:** Judy Rose

The service group lists are of people in the congre-gation who are asked to bring items for special events at the church. Thank you to all the people in Our Savior’s who live out their faith in caring support of the ministries of the church.

Wendell & Maggie Freiheit LaVonne Knutson

Kermit & Joyce Knutson Connie Koball

Theresa Kohler Carol J. Kohn

Dean & Kris Kohn Jessica Kohn

Rick & Stacy Kohn Susie Kohn

Aaron & Toni Kolling Matt & Cheyanne Kolling

Sue Kolling Laura Kosfeld

Ken & Janell Kraut Linda Kruegel

Lyle & Bonnie Kruegel Todd & Chari Kruegel

Ken & Joan Kujath Bill & Sue Kunert

Cassy Kurtz

If you’re unable to serve when scheduled, please find a substitute and notify the Church Office Manager with the change.

**Bluff Country Singers** rehearsals: 

July 21 & 28 at 6:00 p.m.

No August rehearsals

Visitation Ministry Meeting July 17th, 1:30

Let’s Worship Together…

* Saturdays at 5:30 pm
* Sundays at 9 am
* DVD played on Mondays at 4:15 PM at Spring Valley Care Center
* DVD played on Cable Television on KING4, if both weekend services are recorded, watch Saturday’s service Wednesdays at 7pm & Thursdays at 8pm, watch Sunday’s service on Fridays at 8pm, and the following Sundays at 2:30 pm
* Spring Valley Care Center Communion, Tuesday, July 16th, at 10 am
* Hillside Communion, Tuesday July 16th at 10:40 am
* Evergreen Communion, Wednesday, July 24th, at 2:30 pm

Bring your friends Everyone is welcome

**Our Savior’s Lutheran Church**

805 S Broadway Ave  
Spring Valley, MN 55975

Ph 507-346-7251 Fax 507-346-7231

Email: [oursaviorsspringvalley@gmail.com](mailto:oursaviorsspringvalley@gmail.com)

Website: [www.oursaviorsspringvalley.com](http://www.oursaviorsspringvalley.com)

(our website is currently under some “reconstruction”. We appreciate your patience.

Like us on Facebook Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Spring Valley, MN [@OSLSV](https://www.facebook.com/OSLSV/)

**STAFF**

Pastor Mark Van House – Lead Pastor

[pastoroslsv1950@gmail.com](mailto:pastoroslsv1950@gmail.com)

Office visits most Tuesdays & Thursdays Noon – 3 pm, available by appointment Mon, Wed. & Sat.

Pastor Betsy Dartt – Visitation Pastor

[betsy.dartt@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.dartt@gmail.com)

Bookkeeper – Kathy Merkel

Custodian – Toni Sanders

Education Coordinator – Gina Jahn

Music Coordinator – Elliott Grandall

Office Manager – Linda Niemeyer

Youth Coordinator – Ann Oeltjen

[youthatosl@yahoo.com](mailto:youthatosl@yahoo.com)

OSL Office Hours:

Monday 9 a.m.-Noon

Tues, Wed & Thurs 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Fridays CLOSED

***Remember our Deadlines!***

*Articles and announcements for the OSL Newsletter: The* ***17th of the month****.*

*Announcements for the worship bulletin:* ***Thursday, noon***



Please recycle this newsletter when

you are finished with it.



Our Savior’s Lutheran Church NON-PROFIT, ORG

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