Our Savior’s

Lutheran Church

NOVEMBER 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.*



*"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High, to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night...For you, Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy."  Psalm 92:1-4*

Every day is Thanksgiving for those who live by faith. Even so, it is good for us, as a community, to stop and reflect together on how blessed we truly are. Thanksgiving is a nationwide recognition that the health, well-being and abundance we enjoy comes to us as a gift from God, and so we give God thanks and praise.

We live in a culture that tells us it’s never enough; “I am never enough.” Thanksgiving reminds us that in God, we can be satisfied. In God’s eyes, we are enough, and we are loved. We express our gratitude not only for past blessings, and present circumstances, but also because in God our future is assured. Though we may not give thanks **for** all circumstances, we can give thank**s in** all circumstances.

The colonists who celebrated the first Thanksgiving in Plymouth, Massachusetts understood this well. They were not celebrating abundance , but simply survival, for many of their number had died that first year in the “new world.” And so they gathered to recognize the blessing of God’s providence and provision, for it is God who upholds us, in good

times and in struggle. Because of God’s providence, and the proof of God’s love, revealed most perfectly in his Son, Jesus  Christ, we can be “patient in adversity, grateful in the midst of blessing, and trust our faithful God and Father for the future.”

The joy of Thanksgiving is often found in gathering around the table with those we love, celebrating together God’s many blessings. We are thankful for the gift of belonging. We are thankful for the gift of relationships, with God and with each other. At the same time we miss loved ones who cannot be with us, while trusting they are in God's care.

I am reminded that Jesus gives us an image and promise of the heavenly kingdom as a banquet, where all God’s people are gathered in, for a feast and celebration, praising and giving thanks to God. In the parable of the wedding banquet in Matthew 22, the master instructs his servants, “Go into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.”  And so they do, bringing in “all whom they found, both good and bad; so that the wedding hall was filled with guests.”  God desires to gather us in and bless us. God provides all that we need, and more. We respond with thanks and praise as we take our place at the table of celebration.

May your Thanksgiving celebration bring blessing in whatever way you spend the day.

Pastor  Susan Li

Reflections

with Pastor Betsy Dartt

make it simple is an engaging theme for a busy fall. It is so easy to get caught in the thick of

things. When an appliance goes out and needs repair, when both days are filled with too many appointments and meetings, when the families need care; when laundry, paperwork, and pesky health symptoms seem to take too much attention, I am reminded that it’s time to make it simple.

Jesus made it simple and we follow Jesus. In his sermon on the mount, Jesus says (Matthew 6:31-33) “Therefore do not worry, saying ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

We could just as well talk about this teaching as the sermon on the amount. The amount of energy and resources spent on things that do not bring us closer to God or to God’s people is not fruitful for us. The amount of time spent in worry and frustration over things beyond our control separates us from God’s daily blessing. The amount of pain and suffering we experience multiplies when things consume us instead of when we consume things.

In order to make it simple, I return to the basics: Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so. I return to the simple truth of daily scripture reading. I return to the simple habit of frequent prayer. I return to the simple habit of giving first to God and to serving his people. Simply keeping my actions following Jesus, brings balance and perspective to life’s most complex problems. Look at ways to simplify your own life by keeping your eyes focused on the Lord. It really is time to make it simple and rediscover God’s truth from St. Paul: “Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:6-7

**Education Ministry**

The students will sing on Nov. 3rd for worship.

In November we are thinking about the Christmas Program.  Attendance for practices is important for the process.  If you know that your family will be out of town for the program date, please let us know.  We are thankful to LuAnn Klevan for directing the program this year.  The Christmas Program will be Dec. 15th at the 9am worship.

A reminder to all that the offering received from the children and their families will be used first to support Hassani, our sponsor child in Tanzania, and the remainder of the offering will be used to help with the organ repair.

Blessings to all,

Gina Jahn, Part-Time Education Coordinator

[rickjahn71@gmail.com](mailto:rickjahn71@gmail.com) 507-251-1610

**Stewardship=Thanksgiving**

*An important way to express thanksgiving is by supporting God’s work in the church through our gifts and offerings. Intentional giving helps us make a thoughtful commitment to God’s work at OSL.*

**Intentional Giving for the Daily Ministry of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church**

What is Intentional Giving? It is an indication of what you plan to give over the weeks and months of the coming calendar year. It is an act of love that arises from your appreciation for God’s blessings in your life. Beginning last fall, members of OSL completed an intent card which helped our congregation create its ministry plan for 2019. There are three reasons OSL asks each member household to Intentionally Give. First, intentional giving creates a regular discipline for your own generous living. Second, it commits you to sharing more than your leftovers. Third, it is the way you help your church plan a thoughtful ministry. In November we will be asking you to reflect on past offerings made and to grow one’s individual household giving commitment wherever possible.

Sunday, November 3, 2019:

**Day Light Savings Time ends**, 2:00 AM, *Fall back one hour.*

**All Saints Worship Services**

Join your friends in worship on Saturday, November 2, 2019 or Sunday, November 3, 2019 as we celebrate the Festival of All Saints. It is a yearly service to remember the lives of those who have died and are now among the saints in light. During worship, we will name those who have died in the past year who were part of the Our Savior’s community. There will also be a time to light individual candles in memory of other loved ones. This All Saints festival is a beautiful way to remember those who have taught us the faith and shared their legacy of hope and love. St. Paul writes, “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard what God has ready for those who love him.” The promise of eternal life with God is sure because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We look forward to that time when our own pilgrimage on earth is done and we too will join the praises of the saints in light.

We remember and give thanks for those from Our Savior’s who have died in the past year.

Allerd Freimark (1945-2018)

Jerold ‘Jerry’ Willford (1945-2019)

Warren Freeman (1924-2018)

Ruth Ness (1932-2019)

Arlene Kappers (1926-2018)

Glenna Vikse (1934-2019)

Mychal Rollie (1983-2018)

Tyler Bucknell (1977-2019)

Betty Thompson (1927-2018)

Eldena ‘Deenie’ Seabright (1934-2019)

Russell Hancock (1921-2019)

Timothy Rollie (1960-2019)

Kathryn Highum (1925-2019)

Sheri ‘Punky’ Crews (1947-2019)

Adah Fowler (1930-2019)

Lester Fimon (1921-2019)

Peter Haack (1956-2019)

**Highlights from Church Council Meeting**

**October 13, 2019**

***Worship Ministry Team***

Activities & Discussions: Budget, organ project, reviewed previous services, planning upcoming services, upcoming special services, additional miscellaneous opportunities.

***Youth Ministry Team***

Activities & Discussions: Looking for another team member, care packages for first year college students, purchasing youth devotionals and Christmas costumes fabric.

***Education Ministry Team***

Activities & Discussions: Advent card/calendars ordered for Sunday School families; October 23 Confirmation classes will tie blankets for the women’s shelter—welcome is extended to anyone who would be willing to help.

***Membership Ministry Team***

Activities & Discussions: Beer & Hymns is Sat Nov 9th 6:30-9 p.m. at SV VFW featuring Raven’s Fire, discussed new member gifts, looking into a Christian movie “Overcomer,” at Jem Theater in Harmony.

***Education Coordinator Report***

Sunday School is in full swing and fully staffed and Confirmation classes have begun.

***Old Business***

Funds from matured Kumm Fund CD are distributed

***New Business***

Donation of $1,500 from Kumm Funds to Good Earth Gala, and Our Savior’s will support Christmas in Fillmore County. Information will be placed in the bulletin and newsletter offering the opportunity for members of OSL to participate.

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

*--submitted by Helen House, Secretary*

Next council meeting is November 10, 2019 at 10:15

Executive Meeting is November 6, 2019 at 5 p.m.

**Call Committee:** At a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 6, seven members were elected to serve on the Call Committee for the next senior pastor. Those elected to serve include: Bob Baarsch, Emily Fowler, William Jahn, Lori Jones, Ken Kujath, Nicole Pokorney, and Rachel Welch. Please keep them and the pastor search process in your prayers in the weeks ahead! Watch for opportunities to provide your input as they prepare the Ministry Site Profile.



Organ Fundraiser Concert

Sunday, November 10 @ 2:00 PM

Our organ has not had extensive maintenance since 1987. Just like our cars and homes, we have to take care of maintaining them throughout their lifetime. We have a contract with Grandall and Engen LLC to complete phase 1 of their proposal. This work will include replacing leather on four old reservoirs, replacing failing Wicks balance valves with pneumatic pedal pouch units, replacing key contacts to eliminate occasional dead notes, and replacing the cotton-covered wiring on the original Great & Swell 1957 windchests. This project will bring us up to fire code. It will help with the valves that continue to break and have

caused the organ to not be used during certain services. Thanks to David and Elliott we have been able to resolve those issues so that most of you were not aware it was happening. Last year, the church council decided to make a down payment of $1,000 for us to be put on a 2-year waiting list. Right after Easter, the organ will be gone for repairs for approximately 6 weeks. The cost of this project is $23,800. Thanks to the endowment and memorials we have a good start towards earning the money needed for this project. Please consider giving to this fundraising project to preserve our beautiful organ.

**Thank you to…..**

We would like to thank our church family for the kind words, cards memorials, food and prayers after Tyler’s death. It was all greatly appreciated. Blessings, Harlan, Pat, Troy, Jack and Robin Bucknell

We want to thank everyone for their well wishes, cards and prayers while Nevin was receiving chemo and

during his hospitalizations. Everything was greatly appreciated. God’s blessings. Nevin & Nancy Stender

**Readings for NOVEMBER**

**November 3**

### 1st Reading:  Daniel 7:13-, 15-18

Psalm: Psalm 149

2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:11-23

Gospel: Luke 6:20-31

**November 10**

1st Reading: Job 19:23-27a

Psalm: Psalm 17:1-9

2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

**November 17**

1st Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

Psalm: Psalm 98

2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

**November 24**

1st Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm: Psalm 46

2nd Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

**Bluff Country Singers Rehearsals: November 17th & 24th. December 7th 10 a.m. Christmas Concerts: December 8 at 2:00 p.m. & 7 p.m.**

**If you would like to be a part of the BCS, please call Elliott Grandall at 507-346-7882**

Jubilee Bells handbell rehearsals are held on Wednesdays, from September to May at 5:30 p.m. The bells play for at least one service a month. Substitute ringers are available if you are not able to play on a given day. New ringers are welcome. If you would like to “try out” your hands at ringing, please contact the director, Myrna. Leave a message at or email the church.

Senior Choir Rehearsals are every Sunday at 7:45 a.m. Please join us if you would like to sing with us. You are not committed to sing every Sunday.

Senior Choir Rehearsal Schedule

Nov 3 All Saints Day

7:45 a.m. rehearsal Nancy S.

9:00 Worship, Sr.Choir sings

Nov. 10th

7:45 a.m. Rehearsal Laurie B.

9:00 Worship

2:00 p.m. Choir “Pipe Organ”Fundraiser

Nov. 17th

7:45 a.m. Rehearsal Elliott G.

9:00 Worship

Nov. 24th

7:45 a.m. Rehearsal Linda N.

9:00 Worship – Sr. Choir Sings

**Beers ‘N Hymns**



Saturday, November 9th, 2019

Root Beer too, so bring the kids!

Come sing along with Raven's Fire

from 6:30 pm to 9 pm

at the Spring Valley VFW on South Broadway.

BYOB and Potluck

Heggies Forms Logo.aiThe Youth pizza fundraiser will be starting soon.

**When:** Monday, November 18  
**Topic:** Being a Norwegian Lutheran  
**Speaker:** Pati Kachel

“Ya Sure, I’m a Norvegin Lutheran!” Professional traveling storyteller Pati Kachel delights audiences around the Midwest and beyond with her faith-based story productions. With over 40 original programs in her repertoire, this is one of most requested shows. With songs, humorous memories and family history she tells tales of her pioneer ancestor’s immigration from Norway to their Minnesota homestead. Do even Norwegian bachelor farmers love this show? “Ya sure, you betcha!”

**Lunch and Learn Schedule**11:00 Registration and Fellowship at Log Lodge  
11:30 Lunch  
12:00-1:30 Speaker Presentation / Q & A

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.  Would you like to volunteer? Help is needed the first & third Thursdays of the month to help unload the Channel One truck. Report about 9:00 to 102 E. Jefferson St. if willing to help.

***Grace Notes*** is looking for writers for the month of November. The group will be sending more cards and needs the extra help at this time. Contact Shirley Gangstad to volunteer! 346-7679

**MCj04105910000[1]Christmas in Fillmore County** is a program coordinated by the SEMCAC Rural Concerns Task Force. **OSL will provide gifts for 25 children.** Please contact the church office and a wish list will be provided for shoppers to purchase items. $35.00 - $45.00 is the suggested price range per child. **Donation and drop-off deadline at OSL Office is Friday, December 6.** If you are offering a monetary donation please make checks out to Rural Concerns Task Force: memo to ‘Xmas in FC’. **Distribution will be on Thurs., December 12 from 2:00-6:00 PM.**

*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*

Spring Valley Senior Living-Evergreens:

*Roy & Jan Christopherson, Dorothy Hafner,* Mick *Rathbun, Elaine Sheldon, Florence Thorson, Lorraine Hancock*

Spring Valley Estates:

*Bev Jertson, Joan Baarsch*

Ostrander Care & Rehab:

*Dale & Juneus Ristau, Darrell Vikse*

Grand Meadow Care Center & Rehab:

*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 October: Anita Nelson, Harris Williams, Vic Rathbun, Lucille Daggett, Tracy Meyer*

**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.

**SUNDAY Worship Assistants** (9 am)

**Sunday Ushers**: (9 am) Rick Christianson, Doug Plaehn, Duane Hyland, Gareld Stockdale, Jay Webster

**November 3:**Acolytes  -  Aspen Kolling & Macy Runck

Altar Guild – (11/2-3) Ann Thon

Greeters – Harlan & Pat Bucknell

Scrip Sellers – Treyton Pokorney & McCormick Fowler

Scripture Reader – Gina Jahn

Videographer – Dan Reiland

YouTube Videographer – Gavin Hubka

**November 10:**Acolytes  -  Blake Oeltjen & Ira Schmidt

Altar Guild – (11/9-10) Dawn Webster

Communion – Penny Ness, Jerry Klevan, Helen House

Greeters – Ryan & Wendy Thon

Scrip Sellers – Alexys & Ashlyn Harwood

Scripture Reader – LuAnn Klevan

Videographer – Brian Oakland

YouTube Videographer – Christopher Knode

**November 17:**Acolytes  -  Jacob Warren & Gavin Hubka

Altar Guild – (11/16-17) Annette Hyland

Greeters – Harris & Geraldine Williams

Scrip Sellers – Nolan & Nick Fetterly

Scripture Reader – Nancy Stender

Videographer – Rick Jahn – train Garrison Hubka

YouTube Videographer- Blake Oeltjen

**November 24:**Acolytes  -  Emmersen Dols & Macie Rasmussen

Altar Guild – (11/23-24) Gladys Peterson

Communion – Deanne Spurgeon, Janice Christianson, Judy Frank

Greeters – Deb & Jon Dahl

Scrip Sellers – Brayden Betts & Ellie Archer

Scripture Reader – Jon Dahl

Videographer – Trey Pokorney

YouTube Videographer – TBD

**SATURDAY Worship Assistants:** (5:30)

**November 2:**

*Scripture Reader:* Linda Kruegel

*Usher:*  Sandy Richardson

**November 9:**

*Scripture Reader:* Shirley Gangstad

*Ushers:* Carol Ahern & Eileen Rathbun

**November 23:**

*Scripture Reader:* Nancy Stender

*Usher:* Ken Northway

**November 30:**

*Scripture Reader:* Evelyn Clark

*Usher:* Chris Queensland

**November Offering Counter** – Gina Jahn

**Deliver Meals on Wheels** – Week of November 11-15: Judy Frank & Kay Nelson

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

***November* Service Group Organizer:**

**Deb Dahl: 507-272-2163**

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.

Craig & Nicole Schmidt

Jerilyn Schmidt

Sharon Schmidt

Tom Schultz

Missy Schwinefus

Steve & Brenda Sheldon

Dorothy Simpson

Rick & Pam Skaran

Karen Skifter

Barb Smith

Dustin & Nikki Smith

Jayson & Tracey Smith

Kelly Sorenson

Deanne Spurgeon

Nevin & Nancy Stender

Brad & Karen Stephans

Chris & Leah Stier

Gareld & Verna Stockdale

WELCA NEWS

--The Bakeless Sale is on-going. Donations can be

placed in the offering plate or in the church office.

--Thankoffering envelopes are included

**– Red Cross Bloodmobile Nov 7th 1 pm – 7 pm**

**Rebekah Circle** will meet on Tuesday, November 19, 2 PM at Julie Halla's. **Rachel Circle** will meet at Marlys Reiland’s November 20 at 2pm.

**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 Honorariums***

**In Memory of Orville Ruud (brother of Ramona Gilbert & Cindy Johnson):**

*General Fund:* Ramona Gilbert

Organ Fund: Bonnie & Boyd Grabau

**In Memory of Lester Fimon:**

*Organ Fund:* Linden & Marilyn July, Fred Buss, Dick & Sharon Jahn

**In Memory of Judy Kolling:**

*General Fund:* Ken & Joanne Vrieze

**In Memory of Tim Rollie:**

*General Fund:* Mark & Brenda Herting*,* Jeanette Baker, Lee & Carol Himle, Shirley Gangstad

*Organ Fund:* Kelvin & Linda Niemeyer

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

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, November 19, at 10 am
* Hillside Communion, Tuesday November 19, at 10:40 am
* Evergreen Communion, Wednesday, November 27th,at 2:30 pm

***Remember our Deadlines!***

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

*Announcements for the worship bulletin:*

***Thursday, noon***

**Church Staff**

Interim pastor: Susan Li 507-254-9875

Visitation Minister – Pastor Betsy Dartt (c) 507-

884-4853 [betsy.dartt@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.dartt@gmail.com)

Office Manager – Linda Niemeyer

Education Coordinator-Gina Jahn–(c)507-251-1610

Youth Coordinator – Ann Oeltjen -youthatosl@yahoo.com

Bookkeeper – Kathy Merkel

Bell Choir Director – Myrna Legreid

Choir Director/Accompanist – Elliott Grandall

Custodian – Toni Sanders Organist - Evelyn Clark

**Our Savior’s Lutheran Church**

Ph 507-346-7251

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/)

Save the Date

Thursday, December 12, 2019 at noon

Christmas Lunch and Program

Especially for seniors in the community but open to everyone

Sponsored by OSL Caregiver Team

Watch for opportunities to donate Christmas cookies or help in the kitchen.

Contact Pastor Betsy or Geraldine Williams for more detail

**December Worship Services**

December 1nd – 9:00 AM Service of Lessons & Carols led by Choir & Bells

December 15th – 9:00 AM Sunday School Christmas Program/Worship service/No Sunday School class to follow

December 22nd – 9:00 AM Youth/Young Adult Program/Worship Service

December 22rd – 9:00 AM Worship Service, No Sunday School

Christmas Eve – 3:00 PM & 9:00 PM Candlelight Communion Worship services.

Please recycle this newsletter when

you are finished with it.



Our Savior’s Lutheran Church NON-PROFIT, ORG

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November 2019