

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**  
**Redfield, South Dakota**

# ***"Messenger"***

**May 2024**

***"Through the Grace of God We  
Are Worshiping, Sharing,  
Growing"***

## **Vacation Bible School**

Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it. Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 23. We'll be collaborating with our friends from the UCC again. Look for a sign up link on our Facebook page very soon! We will need lots of volunteers to make this a great day for our young kids. Sign up to volunteer on the online registration form or contact Melissa Zastrow (605-216-5542) or Sarah Gregg (605-252-2012).

## **NEW MEMBERS**

New member Sunday is fast approaching. Please contact Amanda Evans at 605 460-0391, or the church office, if you are interested in joining. The date is set for Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup> at the 9 am worship service.

## **Synod Assembly**

Synod Assembly will take place on May 31-June 1 in Sioux Falls. If you'd like to represent OSL, please talk to Pastor Joy or Melissa Zastrow. This is a great way to see some of the inner workings of our Synod.

## **SUMMER WORSHIP**

Even though WOW classes, Confirmation and Wednesday suppers will not be held during the summer we will continue to meet for worship on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm. Many people have to work on Sunday mornings, especially if they are a part of the health care work force. Both nursing homes, the assisted living facility, LifeScapes, the hospital and the developmental center require lots of help to insure peoples health needs are taken care of. This service gives these caregivers a chance to worship. Pass the word to week-end workers. It also gives week-end out-of-towners a worship opportunity. Just come as you are. This is a casual service, about 30 minutes – all the necessities – scripture, prayer, message, communion and hymns.

## **HELP!!!**

We are still are in need of more volunteers to help on Sunday morning with both the Radio Broadcast and Facebook. If you enjoy working with technology, this is your chance to give of your time to help spread God's message. Contact Ray Dunn (605.460.0381), the office, or Melissa Zastrow (605.216.5542).

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Jeremiah was a prophet during the time known as the Babylonian Captivity. This was when Babylon ruled over Israel. Babylon had run off with Israel's fanciest treasures (many from the Temple), as was the custom of the time, and removed Israel's most prominent citizens, those most capable of leading a rebellion against them, shipping them up to Babylon and putting them to work for the empire. To those who were taken, the greatness of Israel, all who mattered, were gone. Only the dregs were left. (I would like to point out that even Israelite princesses didn't qualify for being moved to Babylon, so it is possible that the elite's view was slightly skewed.) Anyway, Jeremiah is a prophet living in Israel among all those "dregs" who are keeping the country going and the economy humming. He has some not so sunny things to say about Israel's actions and says that this Babylonian Captivity is going to be a long and nasty business, and, at least for the moment, God is on the Babylonians' side, not theirs. Now of course, any good prophet didn't simply have to deliver their message, they had to find a way to get people to listen to their message. So this wasn't so much like sedate Sunday pew sitting as some street preaching with flair for theatrics. To visualize his message to his audience, Jeremiah wore a wooden yoke over his shoulders, the kind you'd find on oxen, to symbolize the yoke of the Babylonians under which Israel was to continue laboring because of all they had done. But prophets were more common than you might imagine. One of his contemporaries, the prophet, Hananiah, had a more popular message. He preached that Israel's freedom from Babylon was imminent. It was all going to be ok. Of course, this is also street theater, getting one's message across. So what does he do with this attention getting doom and gloom guy who's preaching the exact opposite of what he's saying? He strides over, grabs that wooden yoke, and breaks the wood over his knee, declaring that that's what God's about to do. Of course, Jeremiah's not going to take that lying down so what does he do? He comes back with another yoke, but this one's made of iron. Good luck to Hananiah trying to break that one.

Anyway, these two are having a go at each other and Hananiah is sticking with his predictions of a sunny future, the return of peace and prosperity. Jeremiah, who turns out to be right in

the end, points out that the great prophets have prophesied a great many nasty things: war, pestilence, and famine against any and all comers. Any prophet who could prophesy peace and actually be right? Now that prophet would truly have to be from God! Because what God has to say isn't all sunshine and roses and it's not something we always want to hear. We want the sunny words of Hananiah. We want to hear that we did good. When we get a bad report, it feels like an attack, and we get defensive. We turn on those who would deliver the bad news. There's a reason the prophets weren't always that popular in their communities.

This is why Jesus speaks so highly of welcoming a prophet. It wasn't the most common occurrence. We all like the good news. God loves us. God cares for us. God wants the best for us. God will grant us eternal life in the face of death. What we don't like is when someone reminds us that we can behave pretty shabbily. Our gratitude for what we have is lacking and we keep refusing to share with our neighbors, no matter how many lessons we've had on the importance of sharing. We don't want to hear that God had to die for us. We don't want to hear that repentance isn't a matter of words, but of deeds. That out of all we've been given, maybe we could make something out of it. That we hurt the vulnerable and shut out those that we most need to hear. Yet Jesus urges us to hear, for "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

Dear Lord, give us ears to hear, even when we don't want to, give us eyes to see what we would shield ourselves from, give us the strength to do what we shirk, give us hearts full, not of ourselves, but of your love. Teach us what it means to be your people. Help us to walk in your ways and to live in love.

Pastor Joy

## Children's Ministries

Another year of WOW is complete. Thank you to all who lead and assisted in classrooms this year: Sarah Gregg, Jayde Englund, Allison Marlow, Melissa Zastrow, Tracy Pochop, Erin Betten, Amanda Evans, Mallory McMahan, and Diann Brenner.

We have scheduled VBS for May 23. WOW classes will begin again in the fall. Watch for this information later in the summer. Have a great summer.

## Church Council Summary

April 21, 2024

OSL Church Council met Sunday, April 21, following worship. President Melissa called the meeting to order, Pastor Joy shared a devotional, the minutes for the March meeting were approved and the financial reports for March were accepted.

Committee reports were given. SD Synod Assembly is May 31 – June 1 in Sioux Falls. Delegates are needed. A grant application for the 2024 Hour of Hope will be submitted. The Hour of Hope provides grants to religious organizations located in SD that provide media contact with those who are either unable or choose not to participate in regular congregation worship activities.

High School Senior Recognition will be May 5<sup>th</sup> during worship with quilts being presented to Ruthie Croeni, Hope Hartman, Harlee Nielsen and Jersey Morrison.

Replacement windows for the Fellowship Hall have been ordered. Sound booth is nearing completion.

Diane Dangel, Council Secretary

## Women of the ELCA, OSL

On Saturday, April 14, we hosted the Northern Plains Spring Gathering. Women from the churches of the Northern Plains gathered for a day of fellowship, worship, Bible study, informative speakers, a business meeting and of course good food. Thanks to everyone that helped make this an inspirational day.

## Spiritual & Financial

On Tuesday, May 21, Our Savior's will host a spring blood drive thru Life Serve. They are the supplier of blood products for our local Community Memorial Hospital.

It is very important that we have a ready supply of blood and blood products available to save lives. The demand during the spring and summer months increases because there are more accidents this time of the year. If you are able to donate blood be sure to go online and schedule an appointment. Remember it could be you or a family member that needs this life saving blood.

### ELCA WORLD HUNGER

When Edina Nagy-Kovacs of Nagcsepely, Hungary, was in her 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester of pregnancy, she saw a sign in a hardware store for the "Backyard Garden and Little Workshops" program. Edina and her husband had recently moved to the area, and they were having trouble finding jobs because of their limited education.

The Little Workshops program, run by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary and supported by ELCA World Hunger, provides practical skills training in rural western Hungary. Economic opportunity is especially limited there for women and the marginalized Roma People.

Edina began coming to the workshop once or twice a week and learned to weave scarves, stoles and towels. After giving birth, she brought her baby with her as she continued her training. She now contributes to her family's income by selling what she makes, and she is learning other new skills such as basket weaving. **Your support for ELCA World Hunger can enable others like Edina to strengthen their livelihoods by following their passions.**



<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>

2024

1 Elsie Miller  
Ray Dunn  
Jon & Karen Jacobs  
Butch & Diane Odegaard

2  
3 Austin Zastrow  
4 Lennyn Peterson  
Shawn Wik

5 Bryce Stephens  
Lennyx Roach

6 Brent Hartman  
7 Susan Larsen

8  
9 Kari Schultz  
10 Kathy Gunderson

11 Chloe Fast  
12 John Doren

13 Jack Lewis  
Melissa & Austin Zastrow

14 Melissa Becker

15

16

17

18

19 Mike Ratkovec  
Camden Kocer

20 Garrett Masat

21

21 Rebecca Rohrbach  
Debbie & Wayne Rose  
Nicholas Becker  
Nathan & Kayla Jessen

22 Rita Masat  
Hope Hartman  
Kinsey VanderWerff

23 Nathan Jessen  
Amanda Evans  
Cully Jessen  
Sarah & Tommy Gregg  
Kevin & Naomi Kocer

24 Anna Perez

25 Peggy Miller  
Kelli Stroud  
Roy Boots

26

27 Steve Gabriel  
Wilbur Dvorak  
Layton Roach

28 Lane Schieffer  
Kellie & Ken Blume

29 Addison Hulscher  
Diane Dunkel  
Brad Jessen

30 Travis Hansen

31 Diane Dangel  
Alex Roeber

If there are errors or omissions to the list above, please contact the office so we can correct our records.

## Memorial Gifts

### Sanctuary -

In memory of

### Undesignated -

In memory of

### Approved Memorial wish list includes:

- Banners
- ELW hymnals
- Endowment Fund
- Library Fund
- Radio Broadcasts
- Sanctuary Fund
- Technology & Sound Equipment

## April 2024 Statistics

There were no, Baptisms, Deaths, Marriages,  
Transfers in or Transfers out.

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**  
**1514 E. 1<sup>st</sup>. Street**  
**P O Box 16**  
**Redfield, SD 57469**

Non Profit Standard  
US Postage Paid  
Permit No. 33  
Redfield, SD 57469

The "Messenger" is published monthly at  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

**Sunday Worship – 9:00 am**

**Fellowship – 10:00 am**

Our Sunday worship service is also  
broadcast live on radio station  
KNBZ, 97.7 FM, at 9:00 am.

Also on Facebook

**Wednesday**

**WOW Kid's Classes (4 yr-6<sup>th</sup>) – 4:40 pm**

**WOW Supper – 5:30 pm**

**WOW Worship – 6:00 pm**

**Confirmation – 6:35 pm**

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday – Friday: 9 am – 3 pm

Church Office – 472-2640

Pastor Joy Proper – 541-255-8455

[secretary.osl@midconetwork.com](mailto:secretary.osl@midconetwork.com)

web site: [www.oslredfieldsd.com](http://www.oslredfieldsd.com)

**Our Savior's Lutheran Staff**

Pastor Joy Proper

Thordys Blume, Secretary

Della Osborn, Custodian

Dana Lewis, Treasurer

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**"Through the grace of God we are  
worshipping, sharing, growing."**

## **THANK YOU:**

**Our Savior's W/ELCA The staff at Ginny's Safe House would like to say thank you very much for the generous donation of \$50.00 to Ginny's Safe house. We appreciate it tremendously. Your contribution will go towards us advocating for domestic violence victims. Your donation helps cover medical, counseling, advocacy, transportation, food, clothing, shelter, housing, ensuring our victims are well taken care of and safe from any domestic violence, trafficking, stalking, psychological, financial abuse and elder abuse. Sincerely, Robin Hartly, Andrea Logan & Deb Mahnke**

Thank you so much for your continued support to the Tri County Good Samaritan Center. Your donation of grocery items help to keep our shelves stocked. We greatly appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness in remembering this home mission. Thank you again. Sincerely,  
Penny Ihnen & Sherry Wurtz, Co-Directors

## **CONTRIBUTION SUMMARY –**

**Weekly Offerings –**

Operating - \$ 10,434.50

**VANCO –**

Operating - \$ 1,296.88

Sanctuary - \$ 20.00

## **FAITHFUL READERS**

The next meeting of the book club will at 2 pm on June 20, to discuss the book Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano. We welcome you to join us for discussion and fellowship in the church library. The designated books are on the shelf on the west wall labeled "Book Club". Please return the books when you are finished reading it.

**REMEMBER THE GROCERY  
CART. FILL IT UP!**