

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Redfield, South Dakota

"Messenger"

August 2024

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

WOW Beginning

WOW will be starting up soon!! We will be back in action starting Wednesday, September 4th! We are still looking for teachers for a few grades. If you are available, please talk to Melissa or someone else you've seen teaching in past years. Our goal is classes of no more than 10 kids this year so we'll need lots of hands to make that happen. Grab another parent/grandparent/loving adult and trade off weeks if you can't commit to every week. We're looking to add childcare for teachers so if that would help you be able to help, let us know, and we'll firm that plan up. Children age 4 and up by September 1, 2024 through grade 6 are involved in WOW classes at OSL.

Wednesday Schedule begins September 4

4:40-5:30 WOW classes

5:30-6:00 Supper

6:00-6:30 Worship

6:35-8:00 Confirmation (grades 7-8)

*LYO (grades 7-12) will be held approximately once a month at 6:30 on Wednesdays.

(WOW information continued.)

Details about the supper will be included in the September newsletter. Dana Lewis will again be the planner. There are always staples such as ground beef, chips, cheese, etc. that are welcome anytime. The ground beef can be put in the freezer.

Confirmation 9th & 10th Grade:

Save the Date: Parent meeting August 28th after Wednesday service at 6:35p.m. Confirmation Sunday Service will be on October 27th. Students; be thinking of a mentor!!

7th & 8th grade confirmation students:

Parent meeting first night of W.O.W., September 4th. Class typically runs from 6:35-8:00. Meet in fellowship hall after service. We will need Parent volunteers to sit with small groups. Taking turns once a month is helpful. Call or text Amanda Evans with questions, 605-460-0391.

LYO- Will meet once a month, this youth group is for all kids 7-12 in our church. A great way to stay connected after confirmation.

From the Pastor's Desk

When we think of the presence of God we tend to think of sublime moments, the birth of a child, a beautiful view, a feeling of immense peace, or even a narrow escape or deliverance. It is the same thing when we think of miracles. We think of things that inspired awe or peace or thankfulness, things that seemed like they would have been impossible without God. When we think of the absence of God we think of silence, of the dreary, of the hopeless, and of the utterly unremarkable.

Yet the first sign or miracle of Jesus' that the Gospel of John records goes against all of our expectations. It is the transformation of water into wine at the wedding at Cana. This is no grand healing, no miraculous feeding. Rather it is in the middle of a raucous wedding where almost no one is paying attention to Jesus and his mom brings to him her concern that the wedding has run out of wine. Now we wouldn't think that they didn't have enough wine. Frankly if we were their bartender, we would have cut them off already. As the steward makes clear the guests are so far gone that things are getting quite fuzzy and they can't even distinguish what they're drinking anymore. But weddings at the time were particularly big on eating and drinking, ideally at least two or three days of it. So these guests were GONE, deep in their cups. And what Jesus does is provide them with more wine, vast quantities of it, and of a superior quality. The steward is amazed, everybody serves the good stuff while their guests are sober. At this point, they'd usually be serving more like watered down two buck chuck. But the wine Jesus has produced from water? It is far better than the best the family could afford to show off to their guests while they were sober.

What are we to make of this as a sign of Jesus' ministry? Is a raucous feast of drunk people a sublime moment? I would say probably not. Nor does almost anyone else realize what's going on, so it's hard to say it inspired great awe in those around him. In many ways it seems greatly unlike some of Jesus' other miracles. Think of how much more dramatic his raising Lazarus from the tomb in front of a crowd of mourners is than this providing wine behind the scenes.

But to me that is also the beauty of it. We look for God in the sublime and the awe inspiring. We tend to worry about the seeming absence of God in the ordinary, the dreary, the drunken and the bleary; people, places, and times where we cannot always see God's presence and God seems silent to us. But here Jesus is, unnoticed, in the middle of it all. Even if he did say anything important, it seems like the drunk guests wouldn't have heard or understood him. But Jesus' presence and undergirding support is not dependent on everyone noticing and appreciating it. It is not dependent on the guests preparedness or worthiness to receive a miracle. It is pure, unearned grace. It is there even when the guests don't realize it. It is there in the midst of the ordinary, even among the drunk and the bleary.

Now hopefully we aren't stumbling through life too sloshed to see what's going on around us, but we can all of us get distracted, drifting along in a fog of our own troubles, or seeing only the ordinary. We can lose sight of God. We can fail to hear God. But God is still here doing miracles in our lives and all around us, even if we don't always appreciate that fact. And God's grace still flows freely even when we can't distinguish it.

SCHOLARSHIPS

OSL Endowment college scholarship applications for the 2024-2025 academic year will be accepted through **August 23, 2024**.

The scholarships are open to any college student who has academically completed one full year at an eligible school and is considered to be entering, at the minimum, their second full year of higher education.

Copies of the scholarship guidelines are available on the table outside of the sanctuary by the secretary's office or by contacting Diane Dangel by email (ddangel13@msn.com).

GRANTS AVAILABLE

OSL Endowment grant applications are available and will be accepted through **August 23, 2024**. The supplemental funds are to assist groups or individuals expand the ministries and missions of Our Saviors Lutheran Congregation. The request forms are available on the table outside of the sanctuary by the secretary's office or by contacting Diane Dangel by email (ddangel13@msn.com).

Completed forms can be dropped off at the church office.

Spiritual & Financial

Each Sunday following worship, two volunteers meet to count the offering and then drop the deposit in the bank drop box. We need more people to do this service. Call Kathy Olsen at 605-354-1742, if you have questions or to volunteer. Each volunteer only serves 6 Sundays in a calendar year, on a rotating schedule.

God's Work, Our Hands

Each year the entire ELCA designates the 2nd Sunday in September as God's Work, Our Hands day, to do service projects in local communities. This year it is September 8th. Dana Lewis is looking for ideas. Be ready to help that day. More information coming.

OSL Church Council Summary

OSL Church Council met on June 23, 2024 following worship. The meeting was called to order, opening prayer and approval of the agenda. The minutes from the May 19th meeting were approved and the May financial reports were accepted.

Discussion items included cleaning the Fellowship Hall carpet, identifying surplus items and items to that need to be disposed of. Also ideas to display the stained-glass window inserts from the Fellowship Hall windows that were replaced.

Pastor Joy will attend Continued Education in Sioux Falls August 6-8. The meeting was adjourned, closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is August 18 at 10:15 am. Diane Dangel, Church Council Secretary

We have a change in responsibilities on the Church Council. Dana Lewis and Amanda Swanson have switched the areas they are serving. Dana is now the Welcome/Outreach chairperson and Amanda will work with Youth Ministries – the 7th – 12th grade students.

UPDATES NEEDED

The beginning of new school year is a good time to be sure the church office has your correct information. Below is a list of information needed. Return to the office.

Names _____

Mailing address _____

Cell phone # _____

Landline # _____

Email addresses: Name & address

August

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
9 am – Worship 10 am – Fellowship <i>Additional Announcements listed weekly.</i>				1 7:30 am – Bible Study 11 am - Food Truck	2	3
4	5	6 Pastor - Continuing	7 6 pm – Worship Education, Sioux Falls	8 7:30 am – Bible Study 1:30 pm – Love Circle, Lakeside →	9	10
11	12	13 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	14 6:00 pm - Worship	15 7:30 am – Bible Study 2 pm – Faithful Readers	16	17
18 Deacons deliver Communion	19	20 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	21 6:00 pm – Worship	22 7:30 am – Bible Study	23	24
25	26	27 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	28 6:00 pm - Worship 6:35 pm – 9 th & 10 th grade students & parents meet	29 7:30 am – Bible Study	30	31

2024

August 2024

1	Erika Frank Kevin Kocer	20	Marlowe Kocer
2		21	Clark Davis
3	Aidyn Spotanske	22	Kelsey Spotanske
4	Jordan Hansen	23	Terry Hansen Scott Roeber Staci Uzzle Allen & Sharon Mohr
5	Jenna Dawson Emily Hoekman Amanda & Dominic Evans Chace Odland Hoytt Curtis	24	
6	Kayla Hochhalter Darin & Jessica DeYoung	25	Shane Croeni Jeff Klebsch
7	Marlene Brugger Darin DeYoung	26	Gary Schelske Les Helm Landon Roach Doug & Diane Dangel
8	Eric Baird Kyle Hamilton	27	David Jessen
9	Diann Steinheuser	28	
10		29	Sue Christensen Sloane Kelly
11		30	Clark & Diane Roeber
12	Gordon & Thordys Blume	31	Dan Booze
13	Cole Schroeder Tynan Anderson		
14	Sandra Blume		
15			
16	Perry Schmidt Micah Zastrow Larry & Rita Price		
17	Reilly Schmitt Slade Swanson		
18	Francelle Fuss Jim Ellenson Ellen Kay Marshall Spencer Lewis Colton & Colette Taylor		
19			

Please notify the office of corrections and omissions so our records can be updated.

Gifts - Memorial & Honor

In memory of:

Undesignated: Mary Lee from Gail & Mary O'Donnell

Approved Memorial wish list includes:

- Tables of various sizes
- ELW hymnals
- Library Fund
- Endowment Fund
- Radio Broadcast Sponsors
- Sanctuary
- Technology Equipment
- Undesignated

June/July 2024 Statistics

Baptisms: Heath Terry Hansen,

Maverick Ryan Peterson

There were no deaths, marriages, transfers in or transfers out.

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

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Summer Schedule

WOW Worship – 6:00 pm

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday – Friday: 9 am – 3 pm

Church Office – 472-2640

Pastor Joy Proper – 541-255-8455

secretary.osl@midconetwork.com

web site: www.oslredfieldsd.com

Our Savior's Lutheran Staff

Pastor Joy Proper

Thordys Blume, Secretary

Della Osborn, Custodian

Dana Lewis, Treasurer

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

THANK YOU:

Dear Our Savior's Lutheran Members,
Thank you so very much for your donation of
grocery items to the Tri-Co. Good Samaritan
Center. We greatly appreciate your kindness
and thoughtfulness in remembering this home
mission. We depend on you good folks. May
the Lord bless you for your generosity and
faithfulness to this community. Thank you
again dear friends.

Sincerely, Penny Ihnen & Sherry Wurtz,
Co-Directors

**Thank you for the beautiful quilt and
graduation recognition at church. It was very
appreciated. Sincerely, Harlee Nielson**

Thank you to the volunteers that delivered
meals for the Senior Center: Henry & Diane
Dunkel, Larry & Donna Crook, and the Evans
family (Amanda).

**Remember to fill the grocery cart in the back
of the church. Henry & Diane Dunkel try to
deliver these items on a weekly basis.**

CONTRIBUTION SUMMARY –

Weekly Offerings – June/July 2024

Operating - \$ 20,891.11

VANCO – May/June 2024

Operating - \$ 2,782.88

Sanctuary - \$ 40.00

FAITHFUL READERS

The book club will meet in the OSL
church library at 2 pm on August 20 to discuss
the book Ordinary Grace by William Kent
Krueger. The next meeting will be October 17
to discuss A Little Ray of Sunshine by Kristine
Higgins. The reading list for 2024 is on the west
shelf in the Library. We welcome you to join us
for discussion and fellowship.

**HELP is needed on Sunday mornings
to run both the Radio Broadcast and do the
Facebook. If you can help with this service
visit with Ray Dunn.**