

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Redfield, South Dakota

“Messenger”

June 2024

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

Dear friends,

Severe storms across the Midwestern and Southern United States have brought deadly tornadoes and flash flooding to millions of people. With your support our church stands ready to walk with our neighbors as they rebuild.

Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response ensure that survivors don't have to face the road to recovery alone.

Through these disasters and others across the United States and around the world, Lutheran Disaster Response accompanies communities for as long as the recovery process takes. Together we follow Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbors in need.

Add to your weekly offering by marking your envelope under 'other' with the amount or add to the memo on your check. These gifts are then sent to Disaster Response by our treasurer.

SURPLUS ITEMS

We're going to do some cleaning up and clearing out throughout the church this summer. Items that are no longer in use will be declared surplus. Church and community members can then take them for a free will donation. If you know of items that can be surplus, please communicate with a church council member.

WORSHIP HELP

We are looking to fill the blanks in our worship assisting. Be on the lookout for sign up sheets and jot your name down where you are comfortable helping. The chart is on the table in front of the sound booth. If the clipboard isn't full by the end of the week, phone calls can then be made so we are prepared to have rich and fulfilling worship services. Anyone that has received their First Communion can help serve Communion at a worship service.

Help is Especially needed to do the set-up for Communion each week. This is a 'behind the scenes' service for those not wanting to lector or serve Communion. You can do a lot of the filling and set-up when it works for you. For instructions visit with Pastor Joy or Diane Dangel. They will be happy to help you.

WORSHIP

We will continue to offer the Wednesday 6 pm worship service throughout the summer. This shorter, casual service is kid friendly, we sing hymns and join in celebrating Holy Communion each week. Gives those who have to work on Sunday a chance to worship. Everyone is welcome.

From the Pastor's Desk

As you may already have heard, your pastor is a nerd. In accordance with said fact, I was browsing my bookshelves some weeks ago and pulled out "The Christian Life," one of the ELW's accessory books. I flipped to the table of contents, trying to remember what the book actually covered and was immediately entranced by the existence of three appendixes. As far as I'm concerned, footnotes and appendixes are where people hide the good stuff a lot of the time. And this was no exception. Appendix One was something called the Nairobi Statement on Worship and Culture. I immediately turned to read it.

It is a statement, but not one put out by the ELCA, but by the Lutheran World Federation. And apparently, unlike us, they know how to put out a statement that is only five pages long and about something interesting. They were trying to answer a question, given all of the wide variety of places and peoples and practices that are considered Lutheran, what is the core that binds it all together, that should be found in Lutheran worship?

I know that in the ELCA, when we think about "different" Lutherans, our minds don't generally go much further than WELS. The Lutheran church throughout the world though, is a much bigger place than that with much more variety. The variety of questions and practices that come up in different places and circumstances is fascinating. What do you do when pigs running loose have destroyed the interior of the church? What do you do when a man with multiple wives converts to Christianity? (both of which are issues that retired ELCA missionaries of my acquaintance have discussed) There are traditions where children of military personnel are baptized using a soldier's helmet for a baptismal font. There are traditions where exorcisms are not infrequent. Services may be five hours long and held under a tree. Services can be thirty minutes long and held in a strip mall. There are so many variations. What binds us together as Lutherans and makes our worship services Lutheran?

The Nairobi Statement is the Lutheran World Federation's attempt to answer that question. We know some of the theology that binds us together. But how should what we believe be shown forth in our worship? What is essential? Where is there room for difference?

First, they say that worship should be transcultural, that means that some things should transcend the culture they are in and always be true. For example, there is one Bible, though there are many different translations. Ultimately, the Statement says "There is one Lord, one faith, one Baptism, one Eucharist." That is our essential core.

Secondly, they say that worship should be contextual. That can be something as simple as worship being conducted in the local language. It can mean the church's giving of new white garments to the newly baptized. It can mean the giving of a lighted candle to the newly baptized. These are things that may be important in local tradition and are neither essential to nor contradictory to our understanding of our faith.

Thirdly, they say that worship should be counter-cultural. They note that we are called not to be conformed to the world, but to be transformed with it. "Some components of every culture in the world are sinful, dehumanizing, and contradictory to the values of the Gospel. From the perspective of the Gospel, they need critique and transformation." It also means changing cultural patterns which advocate for the individual or a particular group of people "at the expense of a wider humanity or which give central place to the acquisition of wealth of the care of the earth and its poor." In other words, if we ignore or exploit the world that God so loved that he gave his only Son for it, in favor of ourselves, we are doing faith wrong, and we need to push back against such tendencies.

Finally, they say worship should also be cross-cultural. That means that we should allow our worship to be enriched by the fruits of faith from around the world. Once upon a time, all of

(continued on next page)

(From the Pastor's Desk continued)

the hymns in a church might have been German.

Now we use the gifts of not only the German church or the Swedish church, but the English church, the Mexican church, the South African church and so many others. May our theology and our art and our practices be strengthened by the insights of Christians around the world.

The Nairobi Statement ends with a challenge to Lutheran churches around the world. It calls upon us to give care and consideration to such factors in our worship. It also says "We call on all member churches to recover the centrality of Baptism, Scripture with preaching, and the every-Sunday celebration of the Lord's Supper - the principal transcultural elements of Christian worship and the signs of Christian unity - as the strong center of all congregational life and mission, and as the authentic basis for contextualization."

A quick note here: the church council, without any prompting from me and no knowledge that I'd decided to write my article on the Nairobi Statement, decided to give every Sunday communion a try this summer. The North American church is an outlier in our less frequent communion practice and it is the result of a "local" cultural phenomenon. It was because in the early days of the church in North America, preachers' had circuits and would only be at a church once every so many Sundays that we became used to the habit of worship without communion, a phenomenon never experienced in some other parts of the world.

Pastor Joy

BLOOD DRIVE

A successful Blood Drive was held on May 21. 47 registered donors, 44 eligible donors, 51 units collected, 3 first time donors. This will impact up to 153 lives. Our next drive is Tuesday, November 19, 2024. Thank you to those that donated and to Alane Pochop for coordinating.

Children's Ministries

Vacation Bible School was held at OSL on Thursday, May 30th. Along with the UCC, we hosted many children who will be in grades K-5 next fall. Our story and activities focused on the actions of the Good Samaritan. This story is found in Luke 10:29-37. Thank you to all who volunteered their time and resources that helped make this day possible!

Church Council Summary

OSL Church Council met Sunday, May 19 following worship.

President Melissa called the meeting to order, Pastor Joy shared a prayer, the agenda was presented and the minutes from the April meeting were approved. Not all of the April financial reports were available so Dana will present them next meeting.

The SD Synod Assembly is May 31-June 1 in Sioux Falls. Joining Pastor Joy will be delegates Mary O'Donnell, Ray Dunn and Donna Crook.

Discussion on items throughout the church building that could be declared surplus items.

New members of OSL were received during worship on May 19. Welcome Jenna Dawson, Grady Hulscher, Addison Hulscher, Kendra Dawson and Natasha Swanson.

Other committee reports were given, Meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is June 23 following worship.

Diane Dangel, Council Secretary

Remember to keep filling the grocery cart for the Good Samaritan Food Bank.

June

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Regular Sunday Schedule 9:00 am – Worship, Communion 10:00 Fellowship Additions listed weekly						1 Synod Assembly
2	3	4 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	5 6 pm - Worship	6 7:30 am – Bible Study Food Truck	7	8
9	10	11 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	12 6 pm - Worship	13 7:30 am – Bible Study 1:30 pm – Love Circle, Lakeside	14	15
16 Deacons deliver home Communion	17	18 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	19 6 pm - Worship	20 7:30 am – Bible Study 2 pm – Faithful Readers	21 11:30 am - RAMA	22
23 10:15 am – Church Council	24	25 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	26 6 pm - Worship	27 7:30 am – Bible Study	28	29
30						

2024

June 2024

Birthdays and Anniversaries

1	Naomi Kocer Perry & Sandra Schmidt	17	Kristina Jessen Rebecca Stephens
2	Leyton Rohlfs		Jeff & Sue Bankston
3	Mario Hansen Rebecca Woodring Gage Ratigan	18	Keith Schroeder Paige Robinson Bob & Deb Stroud
4	Corbin Swanson	19	Gene Stellmacher Cody Pies
5	Kelli Stellmacher Nyla Fixsen Betty Cranston Mikaela Schmitt Brad & Dawn Englund Brooklyn & Nolan Peterson	20	Jersey Morrison Brian Wasmoen Kayla Jessen Don & Rita Masat
6	Timmy Odland Kelsey & John Spotanske	22	Robin Harty Taelyn White Keith & Linda Schroeder
7	Rosa Davis Jason DeYoung	23	Alan Maddox Ruthie Croeni John & Melissa Becker
9	Bernice Rohrbach Matt & Randi Jessen Brenna & Jordan Hansen	24	Camryn Rohlfs Keaton Rohlfs Butch Odegaard Matt Gjernes Gary & Susan Schelske
10	Brenda Hochhalter Mike Rogers	25	Murphy Lewis
11	Leslie Blair Jake Dawson	26	Bob Brugger Dawn Schmidt Tate O'Daniel Verlyn & Mavis Ellis Doug & Sue Christensen
12	Alan Masat Collin Dean Clark & Rosa Davis	27	Pastor Brian & LeAnn Wasmoen
13	Dawn Englund Chandler Hoots	28	Herb Stellmacher Michelle Binger Brent Schelske Phynlee Roach
14	Kerry Doren Ryker Evans Heather & Landon Roach	28	
15	Riley Curtis Joseph Woodring Terry & Brenda Hansen	29	
16	Alane Pochop Randy & Carol Maddox	30	Stan Schultz Spencer Evans

Memorial Gifts Received

Approved Memorial wish list includes:

- Sanctuary
- ELW hymnals
- Library Fund
- Endowment Fund
- Radio Broadcasts
- Technology

May 2024 Statistics

Transfer in: Natasha Swanson

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

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1514 E. 1st. Street

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
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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THANK YOU:

Thank you to Alane Pochop for coordinating the day and the crew from SDDC for your help to get the Fellowship Hall ready for the blood drive. A huge thank you to those that took the time to donate blood on Tuesday, May 21. Special recognition to Adam McMahan on reaching the 3 gallon milestone.

Thank you for the quilt and all the love and support I have received through the years from my church family. Ruthie Croeni

Our Savior's: Thank you for very much for your wonderful donation of grocery items. We greatly appreciate all you good folks do for this home mission. We could not do this service without your generosity and faithfulness through out the years. May the Lord bless you all richly. Thank you again dear friends. Sincerely, Penny Ihnen & Sherry Wurtz, Co-Directors; Tri Co. Good Samaritan Center.

Thanks for the spring basket. We appreciate you remembering us. Gene & Karlene Stellmacher.

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

CONTRIBUTION SUMMARY – **Weekly Offerings – May 2024**

Operating - \$ 8225.25

VANCO – April 2024

Operating - \$ 1,486.88

Sanctuary - \$ 20.00

FAITHFUL READERS

The book club will meet in the OSL church library at 2 pm on June 20 to discuss the book by Mitch Albom. The reading list for 2024 is on the west shelf in the Library. We welcome you to join us for discussion and fellowship.

Vacation Bible School

Thank you to those that planned Vacation Bible School, those that spent the day with the children, those that furnished supplies and most of all the children that attended to make VBS a great day.