

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
 1924 Wyoming Ave.
 Superior, WI 54880
 oslcsuperioroffice@gmail.com
 pastorkoos@gmail.com
 (715) 394-3472

Sharing the Joy

Church Office Hours:
 Monday -Thursday
 9am -1 p.m.
 Closed Fridays

2020

Sharing the Joy



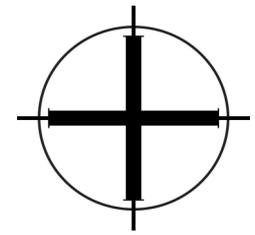
Our Savior's Lutheran Church



Sunday Worship

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Our Savior's Lutheran Church ELCA
 (715) 394 3472 oslcsuperioroffice@gmail.com
 pastorkoos@gmail.com



OSLC TO OPEN AGAIN!

Pastor Koos and the church council are happy to announce that the church is opening again. **The first in-house church service will be July 12th.**

While worshipping God is not dependent upon a building, a church is a gathering, so it is very exciting to return to in-house worship. However, we all want to do this safely. The pandemic is continuing and so for at least the present, the worship service will look quite different. An outline of what you can expect is given below. These guidelines have been developed with input from public health sources and our church synod. The list is quite long but we need to try to keep ourselves and particularly the more vulnerable of us safe. Online streaming of the service will continue. If you have questions, contact Pastor Koos or the office.

Guidelines For Worship as OSLC Reopens

- * There will be no coffee or fellowship time before or after the service. There will be no nursery. Hand sanitizer will continue to be available in the pews and as you enter the building. After the service, the church will be cleaned using established protocols.
- * You will be required to wear a mask the entire time you are in the church. If you do not bring one from home, we will have some available.
- * Please enter from outside using the middle two doors.
- * Please do not come to church if you are not feeling well. When you enter you will have your temperature taken using a forehead thermometer. If your temperature is greater than 100.4*, you will be asked to return home.

- * You will be asked to register so that it will be easier to identify contacts if some one gets sick or has a positive CoVid test..
- * To facilitate social distancing, you will be ushered directly to a pew. The pews are marked in accordance with social distancing guidelines and we ask that you follow them. Families may sit together.
- * There will be no bulletins. There will be no bibles or hymnals in the pews. The readings and the prayers will be projected on the big screen for you to follow along.
- * There will be no singing or choir. Johanna, Megan and Pastor will provide music as they have been doing for the online services.
- * There cannot be sharing of the peace in the usual manner. You might consider waving or bowing in its place.
- * The offering plate cannot be passed. A plate will however be placed in the rear of the sanctuary if you wish to give a donation. You can also continue giving through the website, Simply Giving or by mail. Thank you to all of you who have been doing so.
- * Prepackaged communion kits will be available as you enter the sanctuary. These have a small wafer packaged on top of a cup of grape juice. Follow Pastor's directions for their use. There will be a garbage can to dispose of the cups as you leave.
- * To avoid crowding after the service, an usher will also direct your immediate exit. We will dismiss from the back to the front of the church.
- * Thank you for your cooperation.
- *



July 2020

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!

We have an exciting month of ministry ahead. Last month, the council and I decided, based on the eased restrictions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the general feelings of the congregation, to open the church for in-house services beginning on July 12. Several safety precautions have been put in place and we're limited to only 50 people able to gather but judging by typical summer attendance we shouldn't have a problem honoring this precaution. Just because we are opening the building does NOT obligate anyone to come here to worship. We will be asking people to sign in at the entrance simply as an accountability measure should anyone get infected. It is NOT an attendance record and it will NOT ensure a better place in heaven should you choose to worship in our building! We are asking that no one sing in service nor gather for fellowship either before or after the service. There will be no physical exchange of peace and you will give yourself communion in the pews. Indeed, it will be a radically different way to worship. But we respect that our sanctuary is a sacred place to come and be in the presence of God and we want everyone (no more than 50!) to experience it on a regular basis. What a blessing to have such a beautiful house of worship! Of course, we'll continue livestreaming our services and uploading recordings of them to our website. Let us gather yet again, safely and prayerfully.

Otherwise, we have a pretty quiet month of ministry ahead. The council will not meet and committees can choose to meet but aren't expected to. We'll wrap up our sermon series on the book of Job and begin another 5-week series on Paul's second letter to his congregation at Corinth. We know from his first letter that Paul struggled to lead this divisive, conflicting congregation. But it helped him formulate some key ideas on how to be a church, ideas that can help *all* churches, ours included. I look forward to reflecting on Paul's wisdom and seeing some of you again in-person.

Many blessings,

Pastor Koos

Narrative Lectionaries for July are:

- July 5th: Job 41:1-8; 42:1-17
- July 12th: 2 Corinthians 1:1-11 - Consolation
- July 19th: 2 Corinthians 2:1-10 - Forgiveness
- July 26th: 2 Corinthians 4:1-18 - Treasure in Clay Jars

From our Congregation President-

Greetings,

The reopening committee has met to get the church ready for our first inside service. This will be on July 12th at 9:30.

Our church is ready to open up safely. I am glad we are offering this service as I live in an area that has poor internet service. So the virtual services were very difficult to watch, almost painful. I miss seeing our church family, hearing Megan's laugh and pastor's jokes. I can't wait to get there.

However not everyone is in agreement and we understand. The phone survey was almost split. This is a very personal decision whether to return to in house services. Everyone comes from a different perspective. You must remember it is important to stay home if you do not feel well or if you have been exposed to someone not feeling well.

The virtual live services will continue on our Facebook page. The service is also recorded to be viewed later.

Thank you to everyone for their continued financial support during the pandemic. We will survive this time in our church.

A huge thank you to Pastor Sean, Johanna and Megan for the beautiful services they have provided for us.

May you all enjoy a safe 4th of July.

God Bless

Kathy Nelson

Council President

Offerings

With the resumption of in house services on July 12th, there will again be the opportunity to put your weekly donation in the collection plate. We were able to meet our obligations last month. However the expenses of the church continue . You can also continue your monetary support of the church as you have been. You can bring your donation to the church where there would be minimal contact. You can mail it in. You can use **Simply Giving**.

Other than giving to the church directly during the service, the easiest way continues to be using our **website (superioroslc@gmail.com)** If you go to the website, you will see a box on the right hand site that says donations. Click on it and follow the directions. Thank you so much to the people who have remembered the church during these difficult times.

Bible Studies-July 2020

Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

(Zoom Meeting:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72682782954?pwd=ckhodWo5aC8wNTZVQjN5dXB4WFkyQT09>

or call 1-312-626-6799)

7-01-20 Job 41:1-8; 42:1-17

1. What was the purpose for the comparison with the Leviathan?
2. How is the Leviathan “king over all that are proud?”
3. How does Job respond to God's revealing of his omnipotence?
4. In chapter 42, after listening to God's countercharges, Job "despises" himself and repents in dust in ashes. Should he repent? Has God accused him of doing any wrong, or is God angry with him?
5. With whom is God actually angry? God says he will forgive them only under special conditions. What are those conditions?
6. Why did God speak against Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar?
7. In what ways was Job's restoration incomplete?
8. How are New Testament Christians blessed with far more understanding of God's dealings than Job was?
9. When we examine the lives of many great men and women of faith we discover much suffering. What good qualities have these people acquired through their hardships?
10. How can our personal trials help us to comfort others in their afflictions? Is it necessary to have suffered the same afflictions as those we are trying to aid? Is it helpful?

07-08-20 2 Corinthians 1:1-11

1. Who comforted you best when you were a kid? How did he or she do it?
2. God reveals himself in verses 3–4 as “the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction.” He seems to go overboard here! What images come to mind when you hear these titles?
3. Does anything keep you from seeing and approaching God as a compassionate, comforting Father? What might help you overcome that?
4. What wisdom or counsel would you share with someone when it comes to dealing with suffering?
5. What is the difference between consolation and mercy? How might they be related?
6. How do the promises that God has given us bring us comfort in suffering?
8. How does personal suffering better prepare us for helping others?
9. How does Christ console us in our affliction? Is it the same as how the Father consoles us? Explain.
10. What are the sufferings that we all share in common? How do both affliction and consolation result in positive things

07-15-20 2 Corinthians 2:1-10

1. Do you think Paul was avoiding a confrontation when he decided not to go to Corinth a third time? Should we avoid confronting others who are in need of correction?
2. What was Paul's motivation for writing about forgiveness?
- 3.. What does forgiveness require of each person involved?

4. Paul reflects that he has acted in integrity, love and forgiveness. What role has Christ played in motivating him to do so throughout this passage?
5. How has the Spirit enabled Paul to stand firm throughout this difficult time?
6. How do you know when another Christian is in need of correction?
7. How do you know when another Christian in need of correction should be confronted?
8. “For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ”. How does this shape the way you understand God relates to you?
9. What harm might come if the church did not forgive the sinner?
10. What problem does ignorance create? What are “designs” – 2:11? (Think: How would failure to forgive give Satan an advantage?)

07-22-20 2 Corinthians 4:1-18

1. At what point do you quit trying to convert a nonbeliever to accept the Gospel and salvation?
2. Do you think of yourself as a “jar of clay”? Why or why not?
3. What is encouraging about this imagery? What makes you nervous about it?
4. How have you observed God's “all-surpassing power” displayed in “jars of clay”? What do these observations tell you about God?
5. What causes us to sometimes get off track and think that it's more about us than it is about God's power?
6. React to this statement: “God's not looking for sterling silver tea sets. He's looking for rough and tumble clay pots” Do you think most American Christians believe this? Why or why not?
7. How did the suffering of others pave the way for you to experience life in Christ?
8. What are the “unseen” and “eternal” things in life? How can we encourage each other to focus on these things?
9. Discuss how it is possible to grow spiritually in the midst of momentary troubles. (vs. 17)
10. How would you explain to a non-believer that the troubles of this world are “light and momentary” when compared to eternity?

07-29-20 2 Corinthians 5:1-21

1. Paul says that we should “walk by faith, not by sight,” (v.7). What does this mean to you?
2. “We live by faith and not by sight.” How is faith different than an ostrich sticking its head in the sand?
3. What has God prepared for us? In what way does the Holy Spirit serve as a guarantee that this will happen?
4. What does Paul mean when he refers to us being “unclothed” in verse 4? Is this clear or confusing to you?
5. According to verse 9, what should our goal be? Why should that be our goal?
6. Who has the authority to judge humankind (v.10)? Some people say that a Christian's eternal salvation is secure and therefore believers will not be judged. What is your position concerning the previous statement?
7. When we appear before the judgement seat, what will the standard be for whether they were good or bad? Does this differ from the standards you use when evaluating your actions?
8. What is the message of reconciliation?
9. What does it mean to be a new creation?
10. Our sins were laid on Christ at His crucifixion, and His righteousness is given to us at our conversion. In your opinion, is this a fair trade?

Education

Confirmation—

Confirmation classes for this year were completed using the Zoom platform. A new year of classes will begin on September 9th. Prior to that, Pastor will meet with continuing and new students and their parents and clear expectations for the year will be spelled out.



The students will be doing a service project this summer. They will be doing yardwork around the church on August 29th.

Confirmation has been deferred until the fall and is scheduled for September 6th.

Sunday School-

Sunday School was cancelled for the rest of the year. We hope to begin on a regular schedule in the fall. At this time, we are waiting to see what the schools do before making plans. Rally Sunday is scheduled for September 6th. First Communion has also been rescheduled for that same Sunday.

Adult Education-

Adult bible school at New Perspectives will not be resumed prior to the fall. Bible study here at the church takes place on Wednesdays at 10:00 am. via Zoom. See elsewhere in the newsletter for more information.

This year is the 50th anniversary of women being ordained in the Lutheran church. We plan to do a bible study on “Women in the Bible” in the fall.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Those serving in the military, those overseas, for those who return home with mental and physical scars, and for all military veterans. For the health of all unborn children and grandchildren, all those recovering or in nursing home care and for those struggling with addiction. Those at the frontline of the CoVid 19 pandemic— first responders, healthcare workers and those helping to make sure supply needs are met.

Congregation Members: Jim and Marcy Rigstad, AJ Nelson, Vern Moore, Pat Shaw, Audrey Larson, Judy Johnson, John and Linda Maki, Steve Shaw, Judy Trisko— Nelson, Virgil Everson, Del Kangas, Fred Paine, Amanda Shaw, Larry Gilbertson, Allen Will

Family Members: Jordan Zurn, Michelle Oman, Pat Hansen, Paula Brostiwitz, JR Pietz, Greg McGarry, Andy, Matthew, Mike Klawitter

Friend/ neighbor: Pat Flynn

The Families of: Seija Amundson, Wally Kirshtner, Scott Schachte

Call the office to add individuals to the prayer list.

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Fundraising

We continue to look at fundraising possibilities. The hanging basket sale was a success raising \$396.00 for the church. We are looking into another flower sale perhaps with fall flowers.

While we cannot have activities in the church involving more than 50 now, this might be a good time to start planning activities for the fall. Would you be willing to chair or co-chair a meatball supper, a chili supper, a pie sale, a cookie sale (maybe around Christmas), a pasty sale or a craft sale?

If you are willing to chair any of these events or have other suggestions, please contact the office.

Remember Script Cards

Script Cards are also a way for you to help the church monetarily. You buy it at face value and it's worth face value at the time of purchase. There is no extra cost to you and the church profits. It may not seem like much but it all adds up. During this difficult time, I am only sending in one order a month (the third week of the month) until activities resume in the church. This month is July 19th. I have a container on my front step at 2332 Susquehanna Avenue in which to place your order. It is there all day everyday but it is brought in at night. All orders must be accompanied by payment. Any questions call Carol Skamser at 715-395-0187 or 715-781-0753



The Rummage Sale has been cancelled. It will be rescheduled in the fall. In the meantime continue to look through those storage areas. The church will happily take unwanted items off your hands. Put items downstairs in the unfinished addition, behind the blue tarps. We ask that you please do the following:

- Put items in a box for easier stacking.
 - No clothing
 - We only want things that work.
 - Don't give us things that we would have to PAY to get rid of. That includes microwaves, computers and printers. The only exception is if you put your name on it (so we know when we put it out and take it back, who to return it to)
- If something has an operator's instruction book please include if you have it.

Happy cleaning!!

Mission & Outreach
July 2020
CASDA



July 5th

Hand soap, dish soap, Windex, dryer sheets

July 12th

Paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, toilet bowl cleaner

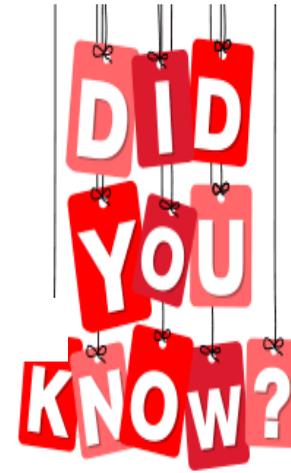
July 19th+

Pine-sol, bleach, all-purpose cleaners, 42-gallon garbage bags

July 26th

Lotions, shampoo and conditioners, cold medications, deodorant, hand sanitizers

You may bring your items to the 20th Street (office) door.



In-house worship service begins July 12th. Sunday Services will continue through our website.

.Adult bible study continues Wednesday mornings.

2 high school graduates, Joey Barker and Adam Young, were honored on June 6th.

Congratulations also to college grads Rachel Tomzak and Lorena Wicklund.

Help Wanted:

We are in need of a new custodian. Stuart will not be returning. The position is for 16 hours per week. If you or you know of someone who might be interested, please contact the office.

Volunteers Needed:

With the change in the service beginning with the church reopening on July 12th, we are in need of ushers.

We are also in need of a cleaning crew to clean the narthex and sanctuary after services.

Contact the office if you are willing to help.

Council Minutes

June 16th, 2020

Present: Pastor Koos, Jack Arthur, Carol Arthur, Kathy Nelson, Andy Nelson, Doris Maki, Bonnie Wentzel, Julianne Koski, Steve Shaw, Stephanie Shaw, Carol Skamser, and Kandee Rosburg

Secretary's Report: A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously pass to approve the May Council minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Bonnie reported that income was \$11,325.19 and expenses were \$10,918. We will be making a full mortgage payment in July.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously pass to approve the Treasurer's report

Board Reports:

Deacons: Carol reported that they discussed their assigned duties. Disposable communion wafer and wine cup packets have arrived. Deacons suggested that communion only happen twice a month when we return. They thought a zoom walk through on what it will be like to return to church be done. All most wear masks. Communion packet will be picked up at the back of the church. Collection plate will be there also.

Trustees: Jack said they took a poll at the trustee meeting about opening again, 3 no's and 2 yes. Jack talked to Dan L. at the building mortgage company. The interest is at 4.875%. We have a bad credit history. If we tried to refinance the loan some other place, we would have to have an appraisal done, which is costly. Neighbor informed us that a roof vent had broken loss. It was fixed. Jack is going to contact Superior Glass to get a bid to fix the leaking St. Paul room window.

Mission & Outreach: No meeting. They were asked about removing the items that are in the pew. Council agreed that it should be done.

Stewardship: Doris reported they discussed similar things that the Deacons had. They thought lots of hand sanitizer stations, temperature checks at door, and keep a record of who attends each Sunday for tracing if need be. Good communication with members.

Education: Julianne reported that that they didn't meet. They decided by email that they were going to wait and see what the School District of Superior was going to do before making any decisions on Sunday School.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously pass to approve board minutes.

Pastor Koos Report: Pastor reported:

He would like to see a sign added to our sign out front that has he website on it. Jack will take care of that. Summer weddings he had no updates at this time.

The zoom account is free for 40 minutes. Pastor purchased the unlimited minutes for \$30 a month, but if you want to store more than six meetings on it you have to pay another \$40 per month. The council thought that keeping the last six meetings were enough.

vision Victories:

Giving has been holding steady

Disposable communion packets for when we open are great

Old Business:

Mortgage refinancing to lower our payments isn't going to work.

The phone survey results for the question, "Should we open church at this time for inhouse services?" The surveyors made contact with 88 households. There were 43 yes, 41 no's, and 4 undecideds. We had a discussion. A motion was made and seconded that we open the church for inhouse services. The motion passed with 7 yes and 4 nos. We will begin inhouse services July 12th, 2020 with a maximum of 50 people. Online services will also continue.

new Business:

We will be using the Synods list of recommendations for re-opening.

A leadership team was created that will cover certain areas, they are:

Communication about Safety – Doris (Communicate expected behavior to attendees', wear masks, social distancing, no lingering, no coffee, no nursery, no food, etc.)

Building Safety – Jack and Andy (Traffic flow, preparing sanctuary, cleaning before and after use, opening doors and windows, etc.)

Personal Safety – Steve (Face masks, hand sanitizer, train ushers, etc.)

Worship Safety – Kathy (Communion, music, touchless offering, *plan for funerals, weddings, and baptisms*, etc.)

Faith Formation/Youth and Family Ministry Safety – Julianne (Plan for fall Sunday School and Confirmation, connection online, etc.)

Church Business Safety and Opportunity – Pastor Koos (Online worship, meetings, online bible studies, ways to financially support church, say thank you, etc.)

Team will meet June 23rd at 5:30 pm

Carol Roberts got a Thrivent card to cover communion supplies (\$200) and cleaning supplies (\$50)

Upcoming:

August 11th at 5:30 pm Executive meeting

August 11th at 6 pm All Board meetings

August 18th at 5:30 pm Council meeting

July 

2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00 am Bible study via zoom	2	3	4  Happy 4th of July!
5 9:30 am worship on website	6	7 Boards will meet individually if needed	8 10:00 am Bible study via zoom	9	10	11
12 9:30 am worship service IN HOUSE!	13	14 No council meeting this month.	15 10:00 am Bible study via zoom	16	17	18
19 9:30 am worship service	20	21	22 10:00 am Bible study via zoom	23	24	25
26 9:30 am worship service Happy Parent's Day!	27	28	29	30	31	