



2023



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

**Sharing
the
Joy**

Sunday Worship

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m.—10:45 A.M. Sunday School

Our Savior's Lutheran Church ELCA

(715) 394 3472 oslcsuperioroffice@gmail.com

Pastor Sean Koos

pastorkoos@gmail.com





Pastor's Report
May 2023

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

We continue to have touch-and-go weather in the Twin Ports. Some weeks it wants to press into warm spring, other weeks it clings to the winter cold. Perhaps this is the month we'll fully commit to warm temps. We'll be shifting from the program year into summer mode as our confirmation and Sunday school classes will be finishing for the year. Or will they? There's been talk about keeping the Sunday school running through the summer in lieu of a vacation Bible school. If you have Sunday school-aged children, please let me or the Sunday school teachers know if your child(ren) would be interested in participating with at least one or two classes. I know kids want a break from classrooms throughout the summer, but we really want to keep them connected somehow to church life. I also hear of possibly running the choir through the summer as well. Again, if you're a choir member, please let me or Megan know your thoughts on participation. I know for sure that we will continue with our weekly Bible study through the summer. The discussions are very fruitful, and I've come to rely on them in preparing for Sunday's message. We will once again shift our lectionary from continuous readings to 4 and 5-week series. This summer we'll be exploring the wisdom of Isaiah, 2 Peter, Wisdom/Poetry, and Creeds. But this month we'll explore Paul's letter to the Romans, always useful for rich reflection. Please be sure to come and hear Intern Sarah lead worship on the first Sunday. Her internship year is quickly coming to a close and it has been a delight serving alongside her in this leg of her faith journey. I am convinced she will be a great asset to the church. We won't officially wish her farewell until next month though. She has 6 more weeks to serve the good people of Zion.

Like Paul, I continue to give thanks for all the faithful ministry we share together. I pray it remains fruitful through the summer and am excited about what lies ahead. And thank you to all the loving mothers and mother-figures among us!

Blessings,
Pastor Sean



From Our Congregation President

It was a good month of ministry with all the Easter celebrations. It was good to have the Easter vigil service back. We were happy to resurrect the Easter breakfast. Fun and fellowship! I'm glad the snowplowing is done for the season. It was double the expense of years past, totaling nearly \$5,000. If you can help contribute to the cost, that would be appreciated. I'm hoping we can get a couple hours of spring cleaning around the church after the rummage sale over Mother's Day weekend. Be sure to mark your calendars for a joint service with the other ELCA churches on Aug. 13. We'll be hosting and providing barbecued meats.

Rick Gilbertson



May 2023 Pastor Visitations

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 04/30-05/06 | Craig Hanson, Don Larson,
Randy Kolanyzk |
| 05/07-05/13 | Sandy Steinberg, Pat Olson, Diane
Tomczak |
| 05/14-05/20 | Tom Simon, Heidi Samarzia,
Melissa Miller |
| 05/21-05/27 | Deana Wells, Rick Gilbertson,
Tina Thompson |
| 05/28-06/03 | Bea Erickson, Steve Shaw, Reid Haglin |



Bible Studies May 2023

Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15

(Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6627675381> or call 1-312-626-6799, passcode: 046800)

05-03-23 Romans 1:1-17

1. What does it mean to be “set apart for the gospel?”
2. What doctrines of Christ does Paul share in verses 2-4? Why does he share them here?
3. What does it mean that Jesus was “declared the Son of God” by the resurrection?
4. Why was Paul made an apostle? What is the end purpose for which Paul preached?
5. What can you tell me about Rome at that time? What type of Christians lived in Rome?
6. What does it mean that their faith was being proclaimed throughout the world?
7. How would you describe Paul’s attitude toward the Roman believers?
8. What are the reasons Paul wanted to visit Rome (list them out one by one)?
9. Are we obligated to share the gospel today? Are we eager to?
10. Why was Paul not ashamed? Is this reason good enough for us to be bold today?

05-10-23 Romans 5:1-11

1. What are some things we do so God will be at peace with him?
2. What does the, ‘by faith,’ mean? Why by faith only?
3. How is Christ’s death related to this ‘justification by faith’ or our salvation?
4. If someone asked, “How do you know when you are a Christian?” how could we answer them?
5. Why it is so difficult for us to come to the Lord? Is salvation a 50/50 venture?
6. How can we become good people? What way does God use?
7. What is an example of a hope that disappoints? What makes the hope mentioned different?
8. Do we really need salvation?
9. Do you think a non-Christian’s statement, “I don’t need a savior” is correct? Why or why not?
10. Why might Paul think ‘enemies’ a good way to describe non-Christians?

05-17-23 Romans 6:1-14

1. How can grace increase if we continue in sin?
2. What is the point of baptism?
3. So what does it mean to be baptized into His death?
4. What does it mean that we are buried with him through baptism?
5. Does baptism magically help us to be more holy? Then what is the point of being baptized?
6. In vs. 4, is there any significance in the word “walk”?
7. What does it mean that we will be in the likeness of his resurrection?
8. What does it mean that our old self was “crucified with him”?
9. What does the Bible tell us to do when we face temptation?
10. How can we be “alive to God”?

5. -24-23 Acts 2:1-4; Romans 8:14-39

1. How does wind represent the power of God? How does fire represent God's presence?
2. Why was it necessary for the Holy Spirit to come in such a visual and audible way the first time? Why isn't it necessary now?
3. How does the Holy Spirit help us in our witnessing?
4. Why is it important to understand that all believers have the Holy Spirit?
5. How does the Spirit lead us? (Romans)
6. What does "spirit of slavery" mean? What does "spirit of adoption" mean?
7. What are the benefits of being children of God? What are the obligations?
8. What does the word "intercede" mean? Why do we think it says we don't know how to pray as we should? What does the Holy Spirit's intercession on our behalf mean to us?
9. Besides the Spirit, who else intercedes for us? What does this tell us about Christ's care for us?
10. Paul is convinced of these things, are we? If we are convinced of them too, what effect will this knowledge have on our lives?

05-31-23 Isaiah 6:1-8

1. Would you want to experience this vision – or a similar one – yourself? Why or why not?
2. How helpful would it be at the beginning of a mission? What about in the middle of a project?
3. The text emphasizes the transcendent holiness of the God of Israel. To what extent does this reinforce our current understanding of God?
4. In Isaiah's vision, God is associated with the Temple in Jerusalem. When we think about God, do we think of God as more associated with some places than others? Which one(s)? Why?
5. What do the seraphs signify, or represent? What seems to be their purpose?
6. What makes Isaiah so different from other Biblical figures who have been commissioned by God?
7. What seems to enable Isaiah to respond in this way?
8. How should a proper contemplation of the holiness of the Lord result in a humble awareness of our sinfulness?
9. How is our experiences of God like Isaiah's: Awestruck? Guilt-ridden? Cleansed? Are we willing to serve anywhere, anytime?
10. What is our responsibility as Christians to addressing injustice and poverty





Education

Confirmation:

The confirmation students will be serving lunch at the rummage sale. They will serve sloppy joes from 11:00—1:30. The last day of confirmation is May 3rd. There will be no confirmation service this year as there are no students ready to be confirmed. All of the current students are in their first year. These students will continue on next year with the addition of one and possibly two new students. If you know of any students who might want to be confirmed contact Pastor or the office. The 2023-2024 year will focus on the bible.

First Communion

Jamie Koos celebrated her First Communion on Palm Sunday, April 2nd. Congratulations Jamie!

Sunday School:

The children will sing in church both May 14th for Mother's Day and again on May 21st. We encourage you to come and enjoy the students efforts. Our scheduled stories for the rest of the year (subject to change) are Paul's Letters, "Love Is" and "Many Members, One Body. May 21st is the last day of Sunday School this year.

Vacation Bible School

We are still looking for volunteers for Vacation Bible School. This can be to help to choose the curriculum and what the organization will be (how many days, hours. etc.), reading the story, or helping with crafts Depending on the format , there might be a need for help with food. Look for a sign up sheet in the narthex. If we do not get necessary volunteers, there will not be Vacation Bible School this summer.

We look forward to seeing the students next fall. Sunday School will start again on September 5th.



Snowman
Kits
Donated
by
Kandee
Rosburg



First Communion



Script Cards

Script Cards

You may or may not have heard that our good friends Carol & Steve Skamser are moving. Carol has been in charge of Scrip card ordering and delivery for sometime Thank you Carol! We will still be doing the Script Card both new & reloads. However the checks will now be dropped off at the church. We are blessed as congregation members have provided a locked mail box which is located on the outer wall by the office entrance. The orders and payment should be placed in there rather than at Carol's house. Otherwise the procedure is the same. A list of participating businesses is in the narthex. Be sure to look periodically as some businesses provide specials for a short priod of time. If you have questions please call Carol @715-781-0753 or the office at 715-394-3472. As of April 24/2023 Script card revenue has yield \$720.00 this year so it is definitely worth while to continue.





Rummage Sale May 13th, 2023 9 a.m.—4 p.m.

PLEASE SIGN- UP TO HELP! THE SIGN UP LIST IS IN THE NARTHEX.

(Starting Sunday May 7th - Saturday May 13th and Monday May 15th)

Please have your items for sale to church as early as you can. Furniture and plants, please wait until the week of sale if possible (deliver to Narthex, they will be sold from there.)

- Sunday – after church services, we need help setting up **tables** and putting away chairs.
- Monday - Friday 9 am - 4 pm **Set-up**. Any help you can give us during this time would be great. *Bring a bag lunch if you are there over the lunch hour!*
- Monday - Thursday 9 am - 4 pm **Last chance to delivery your items** for the rummage sale. **Furniture** items will be placed on the main floor (Narthex).
- We will be selling **plants** again this year. So, help us out by starting or breaking up some of your plants.
- Saturday morning you can start delivering bake sale items from 8 a.m – 8:30 am. Our sellers need time to price items.
- Saturday 8:45 am - 4 pm We will need **checkout workers** (More needed in first 2 hours.)
- Saturday 9 am - 4 pm We need **buyers** to purchase items.
Rummage Sale Discounts: Beginning at 1 pm 25%, 2 pm 50%, 3 pm 75% off
- Sunday morning - Remaining things are on sale for a donation
- Monday (5/15) 9 am - ? Packing up rummage sale items.

COME AND HELP IN ANY WAY YOU CAN!

**A luncheon of sloppy joes will be served
by the confirmation students from
11:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.**



**There will also be Baked Goods, Pasties,
and Burritos For Sale
9 am to 4 pm or until sold out**



OSLC COOKS



Do you have some bake sales or grad parties coming up? Let's try some brownie recipes.

Chocolate Caramel Nut Bars

Ingredients: 1 (14oz) bag caramels.

2/3 cup (5 1/3 cup) evaporated milk

one 2 layer German chocolate cake mix with pudding

1/2 cup margarine melted

1 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

1 (6 oz) package semi-sweet chocolate chips

Melt caramels with 1/3 cup milk over low heat, stirring well until smooth.

Combine remaining milk, cake mix and margarine. Mix well. Press 1/2 mixture into bottom of greased 13x2 pan. Bake 350* x 6 minutes.

Sprinkle 1 cup chopped walnuts and the chocolate chips over the crust.

Top with caramel mixture spreading to edges of pan. Top with teaspoonfuls of remaining cake mixture. Press gently into the caramel.

Hershey's Syrup Brownies

Cream 1 cup sugar with 1 stick margarine.

Stir in 4 eggs, one at a time.

Add 1 can (16 oz) Hershey syrup
and 1 cup flour.

Put in 9 x 13 or jelly roll pan. Bake 20 minute at 375*

Frosting:

Mix 6 tbsp. margarine or butter, 6 tbsp. milk and 1 cup sugar. Boil for one minute. Take off stove and add 1 tsp. vanilla and a 6 ounce package of chocolate chips. Frost bars.





Mission & Outreach May Donations: **Human Development Center**

May 7th: shampoo, combs, soap, body wash,
washcloths

May 14th: deodorant, nail clippers, toothpaste,
toothbrushes


May 21st: toilet paper, dryer sheets, laundry soap

May 28th: canned goods, mac&cheese, snacks,
cereal, bread, peanut butter, jam



Threads of Hope Clothes Closet

The Threads of Hope Clothes Closet continues to provide a need in the community. They gave out over 100 items last month. They will accept donations of new and gently used children's clothing and footwear. Leave at the side door (office side)





REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those serving in the military, those returning 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.

Worship Support Congregation Members: Jim and Marcy Rigstad, Meri Will, Roger Prescott, Mike Dahl, Joyce Bowser, Lynne Hoff, Rusty Carlson, Stephanie Shaw, Steve Shaw

Family Member: Mike Klawitter, Jeanne David, Joel Dykema, Casey, Bill Mullens, Tim Volpe, Beth, Chuck Korn, Richard Gran, Grace, Tanner

Friend/neighbor: Annabel Hanson, Dwaine, Lydia Miller, baby Curt, Bruce Carignan

The Families of:

Call the church office (715-394-3472) to add (or remove) individuals to the prayer list.



May 01 Belinda Erickson
May 02 Adam Rasmussen
Eric Rasmussen
Bradley Hanson
May 03 Donna Pomeroy
May 04 David Oviatt
May 06 Wyatt Wells
May 08 Jackson Mueller
May 10 Jake Young
May 11 Reid Haglin
May 14 Jillian Gran
May 15 Beverly Donaldson
May 19 Audrey Larson
May 20 Lindsey Netland
Rebecca Rivord
Melissa Miller
May 21 Larry Hoff
May 23 Katelyn Gralewski
Abby Barker
May 25 James Erickson
May 26 Carter Skudstad
Connie Morehouse
Robbye Johnson
May 30 Julianne Koski
May 31 Linda Gran





OSLC Council Minutes April 18, 2023

Present: Pastor Sean, Rick Gilbertson, Stephanie Shaw, Brooke Puchalla, Steve Shaw, Diane Erickson, Len Wicklund, Donna Liebaert, Barb Danielson, Bonnie Wentzel

Devotions/Prayer: Pastor Sean lead with prayer

Secretary Report: A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the March 2023 Council Minutes

Treasurers report: Income for March was \$9,557, Expenses \$14,735. Loss of -\$5,178. April is looking to be a better month. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the Treasurers report

Board Reports:

-Deacons: Easter services went well. Readers and communion assistants lined up for remainder month

- Stewardship: Adding volunteer duties to whole congregation. There will be a sign up sheet.

Instructional sheet will also be updated. Activity bags for the children will be brought back.

-Board of Education: Confirmation will now be dismissed at 4:45pm. Confirmation ends May 3rd, no one is being confirmed this year. So far there have been no volunteers for Vacation Bible School. Graduation Sunday is June 4th, there are 9 graduates this year. Sunday school kids will sing 5/14 and 5/21.

-Mission and Outreach: Collections for May will go to the Human Development Center. Threads of hope closet gave out 112 items for the month. Quilters made 47 quilts so far this year.

Looking for members to help cut squares, sew, or assemble quilts

Trustees: Window trim will be replaced in the St. Paul room. Rick is looking into prices for LED parking lot lights.

Pastors Report:

Pastor attended Eco Faith Summit at Gloria Dei Lutheran in Duluth and it was well attended.

- Holy week went well

- Guest Preachers:

- Intern Sarah Gunderson - 5/7

- Sarah Bishop - 9/17

- Bishop Laurie Skon-Anderson - 10/15

- Olivia Deters will be baptized 4/23

New Business: Asking for special gift for extra snow removal costs. A basket will be placed for a free will offering to help with the added costs for snow removal

Vision Victories:

- Easter Vigil service

- Easter Breakfast

- Threads of Hope closet giving out over 100 items

- Refrigerator was repaired

Game days

Motion was made to adjourn

Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer