



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





June 2023

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

The summer season is upon us, which means a shift in programming around the church as I discussed in last month's article. Our Sunday school and confirmation classes have taken a break so the kids can focus on staying out of "learning mode" for the next 3 months. That *doesn't* mean they aren't welcome to be a part of our community! Megan has graciously made herself available for music and activities during worship services. I'll be taking some confirmation kids to camp at Luther Point in July and to the "City on the Hill" concerts in August. And yes, there WILL be Vacation Bible School in either July or August. We just need to hash out the logistics of theme and dates/times. We'll kick off our first of four summer sermon series this month as we explore the wisdom of Isaiah. It's funny how all four passages we'll be looking at are typically used as Advent readings. Are the lectionary creators cleverly preparing us for "Christmas in July?" It'll certainly feel like "Advent in June" with our readings. Remember that our weekly Bible studies will continue through the summer on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. Also, all singers are invited to join us for rehearsals on Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. The songs we'll be performing will be more contemporary, but all singers are invited to join Megan, Jennifer, and I. I challenge all of us, young and old, to really try this summer to stay connected with the life of the congregation and keep participating in worship, learning, singing, and fun. I know these 3 months are precious to all of us for traveling with such long winters around here, but our church family needs all of you. Please check in every so often with your church family. We love you and miss seeing you around the church!

Summer blessings,

Pastor Koos

June Narratives

06/04/2023	Isaiah 6:1-8	Isaiah Part 1
06/11/2023	Isaiah 9:1-7	Isaiah Part 2
06/18/2023	Isaiah 40:1-11	Isaiah Part 3
06/25/2023	Isaiah 61:1-11	Isaiah Part 4

Summer Narratives

Pastor will again be using the Summer Narrative Lectionary Readings this year. These readings will include:

Isaiah 4 weeks in June

2nd Peter 3 weeks in July

Old Testament Wisdom and Poetry 2 weeks in July and 2 weeks in August

Creeds 2 weeks in August and 1 week in September



From Our Congregation President

It's exciting to finally be in summer again. Be sure to join us for our outdoor service on June 18 and don't forget to mark your calendars for another outdoor service on July 16. We'll gather for an outdoor service with all the ELCA churches of Superior on August 13. Stick around after service on June 25 for a quick church and church grounds cleanup. You might wear work clothes to service. The bills don't stop in the summer so please continue your faithful giving.

Rick Gilbertson, president



June 2023 Pastor Visitations

05/28-06/03 Bea Erickson, Steve Shaw, Reid Haglin

06/04-06/10 Ben Rhodes, Jim Splinter, Jack Arthur

06/11-06/17 Arlene Knase, Jill Bruno, Ralph Rolson

06/18-06/24 Ed Willie, Tom Krob, Jeff Liebaert

06/25-07/01 Sharrie Janovich, Lanse Roeber,
Linda Gran





Bible Studies June 2023

Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15

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

06-07-23 Isaiah 9:1-7

1. The opening verses speak about a promise. 9:1 speaks about glory; 9:2 about light. What about 9:3? What are the key words in 9:1, 2 and 3 that suggest this?
2. What battle at Midian is Isaiah referring to? See Judges 7.
3. Verses 4-5 speak about the promise of freedom and independence. Why are these promises so important?
4. List the four phrases of His name (9:6). Explain what comes to your mind with each one.
5. How does the last phrase, "The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this" make a difference?
6. Why did Jesus have to come down to earth to us? How is Jesus the light of the world?
7. What is the difference between "walking in darkness" and "dwelling in darkness?"
8. How does John 12:46 offer us hope today?
9. Are there any aspects of God's light on display in vv.3-5 that we have written off for ourselves or our world? Which ones do we find it hard to let ourselves hope to see?
10. As we consider the deep darkness in the world, which areas break our hearts the most?

06-14-23 Isaiah 40:1-11

1. What are some of the various ways people comfort themselves about life's difficulties?
2. How does Isaiah's message of comfort apply to us today?
3. In what sense can it be comforting to meditate on the overwhelming greatness of God?
4. What sorts of circumstances cause contemporary people to become weak and weary?
5. In what sense can God's powerful wrath actually be an encouragement to the downtrodden?
6. Which of Isaiah's portrayals of God's power over nature speaks most clearly to us? Why?
7. Why is it important for us to remember that God is infinitely higher than we imagine ourselves to be?
8. The word 'salvation' refers to both the time when we are rescued from the world into God's covenant people, but also as His people when we are rescued from difficult times we were facing. Which interpretation is true of these verses?

Bible studies 06-14-23 continued

09. How do these verses relate to the way God deals with us?

10. What comfort is it for us now to know that God's glory has been revealed in Jesus, and will be revealed completely when Jesus returns?

6-21-23 Isaiah 61:1-11

1. What was Jesus communicating when He claimed that Isaiah 61 "is fulfilled in your hearing?"

2. In what ways does Christ's life and ministry explain and expand on this passage?

3. Why is it important that we both speak about the good news and bring it to life?

4. Are we called to live the same kind of life and do the same kinds of things Jesus did? Why or why not?

5. How can Jesus practically help the poor? The brokenhearted? The captives? The mourners?

6. How would we characterize the sorts of people for whom the Messiah came?

7. Why is blessing his people an effective way for God to display his splendor?

8. What would it signal about our status with the giver if we were to inherit a "double portion" in

his or her will?

9. Why is it important to God that all nations acknowledge Him?

10. How will "the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God" comfort those who mourn?

6-28-23 2 Peter 1:1-11

1. How does Peter describe himself in his greeting? Why is this important?

2. What does the phrase "those who have received a faith as precious as ours" mean?

3. What does it mean that he "called us by his own glory and goodness?"

4. How can one become "participants of the divine nature?"

5. What is the corruption that is in the world?

6. Would you say that a Christian has everything he needs to live a godly life? What are those things?

7. What do you say to a professing Christian who says he/she doesn't have power to live a godly life?

8. Peter refers to the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord several times (see v2, v3, v8). What do we think it means to "know Jesus Christ"?

9. Peter lists several qualities that will make living as Christians more secure and "fruitful." What are our responses to this list? Why?

10. How would we know we "had these things and they were increasing" – what would be real life indicators of that, what would we be looking for?





Education

Confirmation:

The confirmation students served lunch at the rummage sale. They earned \$436.00.

The last day of confirmation for the 2022-2023 school year was May 3rd. Since all of the current students were first year students, there was no confirmation service. These students will continue on next year with the addition of one and possibly two new students. The new year will start September 6th. 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.

Pastor will be taking some students to Bible camp in July. Most of the students are unable to participate in an overnight camp experience. It was felt that they then needed to do a service project.. Together with Pastor, they are going to paint a mural in the middle stairwell area. This will be done Saturday August 26th. Plans are also being made for the students to attend "City on the Hill" August 3rd, 4th or 5th.

Sunday School:

The children sang in church both May 14th for Mother's Day and again on May 21st. (see pictures) May 21st was the last day of Sunday School. It will resume again on September 10th.

There has been an offer of help so we are reconsidering VBS. If your child(ren) would attend if it didn't conflict with their other activities, please let the office know of times and dates that might work for you. This would be free of charge.



Frosting cookies for Mom (and one for themselves) on Mother's Day



Singing on the last day of Sunday School for this year, May 21st



Saying good-bye to Diane Erickson as she will not be teaching next year since they are moving.



Scrip Cards

Script Cards

The Skamsers have moved. While Carol will still be helping during the transition, Cherie Splinter will be taking over. The orders with 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, in the container in the St. Paul's room on Sunday morning or at the office. 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 period of time. If you have questions, please call 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.





THANK YOU to all that were involved with the 2023 Rummage, Bake, Pasties, Burritos, and Lunch Sales!!!

We combined the rummage (\$4,718), bake (\$547), and pasties & burrito (\$1,176) sales together for a total of **\$6441**. That will pay one mortgage payment plus about a fourth of another. The youth made **\$400**, which they will keep.

Thanks to all of you that *donated* items and *purchased* items. A huge **THANK YOU** to the **setup** group, **take down** group, and to those that worked on **sale day**. Also, **THANK YOU** bakers! And **THANKS** to the youth and parents that served lunch! Thrivent provided \$250 to cover the cost of the ad, supplies, and food for youth lunch. Thrivent also provided \$250 to cover the food supplies to make pasties and burritos. We had a SUPER group of workers this year that stepped up to cover for me. It is all of you that contribute and work that make this fund raiser successful! We can always use more help, so consider helping next year.

*We are ready to start taking donations for 2024. Put them behind the blue curtain downstairs. Happy cleaning!!! We are changing the date next year to the first weekend in May, which will be **May 4, 2024**.*

GET YOUR
RED OF
STUFF



OSLC COOKS



Some delicious casseroles-

Wild Rice With Pork Chops

Ingredients:

- 1 6 ounce box long grain and wild rice
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1 16 ounce can Chinese vegetables, drained
- 6 lean pork chops
- Black pepper

Mix rice, soup and water in a 2 quart casserole. Add vegetables. Arrange pork chops on top. Sprinkle with black pepper. Bake 1 hour and 20 minutes at 350*. Serve with Chinese noodles and soy sauce, (Veal chops or chicken may be substituted)

6 Layer Hot Dish

In a greased 2 quart casserole dish, layer, in the order given. Season each layer with salt and pepper.

1. 2 medium potatoes, sliced
 2. 2 medium carrots, sliced
 3. 1/3 cup uncooked rice
 4. 2 small onions sliced
 5. 1 pound ground beef
 6. 1 quart canned tomatoes with some of the liquid
- Sprinkle 1 tablespoon of brown sugar over the top.

Bake 2 1/2—3 hours at 300*

Pizza Beans

Ingredients:

- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 16 ounce can kidney beans (drained)
- 1 8 ounce can tomato sauce
- 2 1 ounce envelop pizza sauce mix
- 3 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 4 1/2 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

About 40 minutes before serving:

In a medium skillet at medium heat, cook ground beef until browned. Add kidney beans, tomato sauce, pizza sauce mix and salt. Cover and cook over low heat for 10 minutes. Sprinkle with mozzarella cheese. Cover and cook for 5 minutes.



© CanStockPhoto.com





Mission & Outreach

June Donations:

St. Vincent de Paul

June 4th: dish soap, laundry soap, general cleaning supplies

June 11th: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, paper towels

June 18th: toothpaste, toothbrush, kids toothpaste, kids toothbrush

June 25th: deodorant, disposable razors, womens socks





Threads of Hope Clothes Closet

The Threads of Hope Clothes Closet continues to provide a need in the community. **A big thank you to Diane Tomzak who has been maintaining the closet.** She recently switched the clothes in the rooms from winter clothing to summer clothing. The closet continues to accept donations of clean, new or gently used children's clothing and footwear. Leave any donations at the side door (office side). If you know of someone in need, the closet is open Monday through Thursday 9 a.m.—1 p.m.





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, Joyce Bowser, Lynne Hoff, Rusty Carlson, Stephanie Shaw, Steve Shaw, A J, Ralph Rolson

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

Friend/neighbor: Annabel Hanson, Dwaine, Lydia Miller, baby Curt, Bruce Carignan, Ron, Ben & family, Jenny

The Family of: Tracy Severson Ruppe (daughter of Shirley Severson), Eric Rue (brother of Matt Rue)

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






Happy Birthday
To Everyone
Born in June!



June 01	Richard Berg
	Willow Rhodes
June 03	Linda Maki
	Carol Skamser
June 06	Leighton Hanson
June 10	Zoey Heytens
June 11	Jennifer Farrell
June 18	Matthew Carlson
June 20	Joseph Morehouse
June 23	Bonnie Leland
	Christian Murashie
	Evan Puchalla
June 25	Katherine Westlund
June 28	Ryan Rivord
June 30	Arlene Knase





OSLC Council Minutes
May 16, 2023

Present: Pastor Sean, Rick Gilbertson, Stephanie Shaw, Brooke Puchalla, Steve Shaw, Carol Arthur, Bonnie Wentzel, Dianna Garthwait, Julianne Koski, David Kringle, Jennifer Farrell

Devotions/Prayer: Pastor Sean lead with devotion from Psalm 93

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

Treasurers report: Income for April was \$15,359.79, Expenses \$8,522.31 Gain of \$6,837.48. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the Treasurers report

Board Reports:

-Deacons: 5/28 is Pentecost Sunday, wear Red! Communion will be around the altar the first Sunday and by intinction on the other Sundays of the month. Deacons proposed to reinstate passing the offering plate and sharing of the peace. A motion was made, seconded, and passed by the council to reinstate passing the offering plate and sharing of peace.

-Stewardship: Idea was brought forward of a possible fundraising dinner put on by OSLC. Responsibility instruction page was completed. Will be on cabinet in the sanctuary and on table with sign-up sheet.

-Board of Education: Last day of confirmation was May 2nd. Confirmation students served sloppy joes at rummage sale on 5/13. It was suggested the confirmation students who don't go to camp have to do a service project. Last day of Sunday school 5/21. Kids will be singing in church that day. Megan suggested singing with kids once a month in the summer. No one has stepped up to help with VBS. We will be celebrating college and high school graduates on June 4th.

-Mission and Outreach: Collections for July will go to St. Vincent De Paul. Clothes closet changed to spring and summer clothes. 44 items given out in April. Quilters completed quilts for graduates and also 50+ quilts were completed for shelters. Starting to plan for National Night Out on Tuesday August 1st.

-Trustees: Agreed on the written proposal for Pastor salary. Tracking snow removal by adding a line on treasurers report

Pastors Report:

Pastor brought up the idea of offering child care Saturday mornings for parents to drop their children off for a couple hours. Possibly like VBS every week. Still in early stages of planning. Need to check to make sure the church is covered on insurance. Will need to figure out if this would be every week? Once a month? During the Summer? During the Fall/Winter? This would be open to the community. Could use this to draw in new members.

New Business: Asking each Board to review their goals and duties of their Board. Make changes and update as necessary. This hasn't been done in many years

Vision Victories:

- Rummage Sale went well! Brought in \$6,000
- There was an increase in giving in April
- Clothes closet
- Communion by intinction
- Clothes closet
- Music has been great!

Upcoming Events:

- August 14th - all ELCA church BBQ hosted by OSLC
- Outdoor services this summer:
 - June 18th
 - July 16th

Motion was made to adjourn

Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Brooke Puchalla, Secretary