
SIDELITES

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

September 2020



RALLY SUNDAY

September 13th at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Rally Sunday traditionally marks the beginning of our new church "year." This year, we will be getting back to basics, and starting at the beginning of the Bible. Join us on Sunday, September 13th to hear the wondrous Creation Story. "*In the beginning*," we will learn about God's amazing creation, as well celebrating our youth with Bible Milestones for our Three Year Olds at 9:00 a.m., and our 7th Graders at 10:30 a.m.! Don't forget to bring your lawn chairs or blankets, and your own elements of communion (crackers or bread, and juice).

September



In one year, five years, ten years, I wonder what we will say the corona virus taught us and how it changed us. Maybe we don't have to wait. I think we can say we have already learned a lot. I hope what we have learned over the last six months, and are continuing to learn, will shape us now and in the future. Right now, I hope we will be more grateful for the little things, I hope families will continue to share meals together. I hope we will keep checking on our neighbors. I hope we will remember that while we don't always agree on everything, that it is important that we work together to solve problems. I hope we all understand how Our Savior's has never quit gathering and how we can be the church in all circumstances. I hope we will recognize how God has been with us each day of the pandemic. I hope we will remember each day how trusting God gives strength and peace even as we face challenges. Finally, because of all we are doing now that we will be able to look back and see that even though it was difficult, Our Savior's is stronger and even more focused on our mission.

While we are still in the pandemic, we understand more about how to stay safe and healthy. This means more businesses are open and school will be in session. No doubt you have been wondering what this means for

Our Savior's. There are guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Health for faith communities, and the health team and church council make recommendations and decisions based on these guidelines. Your ongoing prayers and support of our church leaders as they make these decisions is appreciated.

As the situation changes often, we have been making worship decisions month by month. **The worship plan for September is that we continue to worship outdoors through Rally Day, September 13th. Sunday service times outdoors remain the same, 9:00 and 10:30.** The tradition has been to worship outdoors for Rally Day, and so we will do that again this year. You read more about Rally Day in this newsletter. Beginning September 20th, we plan to worship indoors. There will be a congregational letter in mid-September explaining how that will happen. As always, during a pandemic, things may quickly change and we will be prepared for that.

Faith formation will begin this fall. Confirmation youth have received a letter outlining how we will meet beginning in September. Families with children and youth will also receive a letter outlining how we will do faith formation for their specific age. We are working on plans for safely resuming Choirs and Handbells. Again, our plan is to follow state health guidelines in all of these decisions. Other small groups and committees will be meeting in the church. Please see the church calendar for dates of these gatherings. The leaders of the groups should speak to a staff person so that gatherings take place in the areas of the church that are the safest.

Throughout the generations, God's people have faced challenges. God's promise is that in those challenges we are not alone and even more, that God is at work in every situation. Looking back at scripture we see how God was with his people whether they were wandering in the wilderness or were facing the challenges of the early church. God is with us, too, and with God's help we continue in our mission to share God's light and love with our congregation, community, and world.

Pastor Kathy



A New Sermon Series

Last year at our Council and Teams retreat we talked about different ways to revitalize the church. These came in 6 concepts: Back to Basics, Make Worship Participatory, Listen, Translate, Experiment, and Share. These are concepts we are trying to include in our work each day as we continue being church together. With that in mind, we thought this would be a great year to go back to the basics.

This means we will be doing a year-long sermon series based on the story of the Bible. Starting on Rally Sunday, we are going to begin at the beginning of the Bible and work our way through seeing the salvation history that God has given us. We will go through the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible) in the fall, the Gospels (Life of Jesus) in the winter and the rest of the New Testament in the Spring. By doing this, we can see the whole picture of who God is and who we are in God's world.

This is a great opportunity to refresh those stories that we know so well and maybe learn some that we haven't heard before. We will be doing a Bible Study covering the stories from worship, as well as some of the surrounding stories to give us an even fuller picture. This year is a great time to dedicate ourselves to Scripture and digging into God's word.

Blessings on this year of focusing on God's story and our place in it!

Pr. Dave

Entering Our Building in September

Treehouse Preschool will be in session beginning the second week of September. In order to prevent groups gathering/meeting at the entrance they use, we will have the front doors (State Street) doors open for our members to use. The doors will be unlocked from 7:00 AM - 3:00, unless there are church activities. If there are church events in the lower level during the day, we will work with Treehouse Preschool on alternatives.



Dear friends from Our Savior's Lutheran Church,

On behalf of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LLS) and those we serve, thank you for your recent gift of \$166.50...Your support affirms our vision that all people have the opportunity to live and work in community with full and abundant lives.

- Pastor Julie Wright, Director of Church Partnerships and Volunteerism, LSS of Minnesota

Thank you so much for your donation to The REACH in the amount of \$166.50. We are so grateful and thankful for your support.

- The REACH

Our Saviors,

We are so sad we couldn't host you this September, but we truly hope to be able to see you again soon. Hope all is well! Blessings,

- GLLM Staff

OSLC,

Thank you for all the support you've shown me throughout the years. Thank you for the quilt and for the wonderful cupcakes. I'm gonna miss the best community around! Thanks again,

- Zach Lund

I'd like to thank the entire staff at OSLC for your extra efforts in planning and preparing for worship under these unusual circumstances. The additional work and monitoring that comes with managing services via Facebook and the outdoors, as well as the indoor prayer hours, is very much appreciated! Thank you, also, to the members of the team making responsible decisions in an effort to keep everyone safe. You are all heroes! You are all most appreciated!

- Sheri Davis

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for participating in our backpack program by providing a collection box for school supplies...We had great feedback from grateful parents and excited children as they picked up their backpacks full of many school supplies last week. Thanks again and we hope that we can count on you again next year.

Sincerely,

- Lori Pickell-Stangel, Executive Director; and Sarah Lee, Backpack Project Coordinator
United Way of the Brown County Area



OUR SAVIOR'S

Lutheran Church

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New Ulm, MN
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Address Service Requested

Outdoor Worship

Sunday worship – 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Wednesday worship – 6:30 PM

Facebook Live – Sunday at 9:00 AM

Television Broadcasts

(Comcast Channel 14; Nuvera Channel 3)

Mon.–7:00 PM; Thurs. – 5:00 PM

SIDELITES

OUR SAVIOR'S is a Welcoming

community, experiencing God,

reaching out and raising up followers of

Jesus Christ