



the Kindred Spirit

May
2021

Newsletter of Our Savior's Lutheran Church · Albany, MN · 320-845-2405

Re-Connect BBQ ~ May 2nd @ 11:30AM

Worship in-person Sundays at 9:00 & 10:30AM
Worship live online or KASM radio Sundays at 9AM

Facebook: OSLC56307
Tune into KASM 1150 AM Radio



May 2021

Additions to the calendar? Email Our Savior's Lutheran Church office: oursaviors@albanytel.com or call 320-845-2405

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 9am Worship Service—In-Person/ Online/Radio 10am Online Joyful Noise 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am OSLC BBQ	3	4 7pm NA Meeting	5 6:30 Building & Grounds Committee Meeting 7pm Choir Practice	6 9:30am Synod Interim Meeting 1pm Prayer Circle Meeting 7pm Bishop Zoom with Council Presidents	7 OFFICE CLOSED	1 12pm Farmers to Families Food Event 8
9 9am Worship Service—In-Person/ Online/Radio 9am Baptism for Jack Nygaard & Ryan Bestor 10am Online Joyful Noise 10:30am Worship Service 10:30am Baptism for Rialyn Ceplecha	10 7pm Garden Club	11 2pm Bishop's Zoom with Pastors 7pm NA Meeting 7pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting	12 1pm Quilting Squares 7pm Choir Practice	13 9:30am Great River Conference PALS 7pm Bishop Zoom with Council Presidents	14 OFFICE CLOSED	15
16 9am Worship Service—In-Person/ Online/Radio 10am Online Joyful Noise 10:30am Worship Service	17	18 7pm Congregational Council Meeting 7pm NA Meeting	19 1pm Mary's Circle Bible Study 5:30pm Congregational Life & Mission Meeting 7pm Choir Practice	20 7pm Bishop Zoom with Council Presidents	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22
23 Graduate Sunday 9am Worship Service—In-Person/ Online/Radio 10am Online Joyful Noise 10:30am Worship Service	24	25 7pm NA Meeting	26 7pm Choir Practice	27 7pm Bishop Zoom with Council Presidents	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 9am Worship Service—In-Person/ Online/Radio 10am Online Joyful Noise	31 OFFICE CLOSED	6/1 7pm NA Meeting	6/2 6:30 Building & Grounds Committee Meeting 7pm Choir Practice	6/3 9:30am Synod Interim Meeting 1pm Prayer Circle Meeting 7pm Bishop Zoom with Council Presidents	6/4 OFFICE CLOSED	6/5

Please check the website calendar for schedule changes and/or cancellations: OurSaviorsLutheranAlbany.org

Pastor's Reflection



Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons.

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. — Philippians 1:1-6

When you read the above passage from Paul's letter to the church in Philippi, substitute "Our Savior's" for "Philippi"... To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Our Savior's.... These are my sentiments towards you as I finish up my short little "bridge interim" call at Our Savior's. My last Sunday will be May 16 and my last day of work will be May 21. Pastor Anthony starts on June 1, and it's good to leave a week or two between pastors.

I do thank my God every time I remember you! In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now! When I first arrived at OSLC, I thought people probably wouldn't get too close to me or invested in me as a person, because you've had so much transition in pastors over the past years, and because I'm a "short timer!" But how

wrong I was! I have truly been overwhelmed by your open-heartedness, and your willingness to extend love and welcome to someone who you know will be gone so soon. Thank you for the cards you've sent, the gifts you've given, the emails and texts and your words of love and kindness and encouragement. You are an incredibly kind and loving congregation, and I am so grateful to God that God brought you in to my life! I will always remember you with joy and thanksgiving!

And I am entirely confident that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus! I am so excited for you as you welcome Pastor Anthony, and all the future holds for you. Remember, it is GOD'S future and GOD will bring it to completion in you! When I look back on your history as a congregation, and all the ways that God has led and guided you along the way, in every season, I am fully confident that God will continue to lead and guide you into exactly the purposes God has for you! This will be a wonderful "partnership in gospel" as you embrace Pastor Anthony and all that God leads him to bring to you as a congregation!

I will be praying for Pastor Anthony and for all of you at Our Savior's as you walk into this exciting new chapter of your life together! Hurray for God! And hurray for Our Savior's!

With deep love and gratitude,

Denise

Pastor Denise

Re-Connect BBQ May 2nd at 11:30AM!! (Weather permitting)

Let's re-connect with each other after a loooooong Covid winter! The meal will be free will offering with the Hartwigs providing the burgers and a serving group providing the sides! There will also be games and activities for the kids! We will be COVID-safe outside, and will continue to social distance, even as we visit with each other. If you would prefer to stay in your vehicle, we will bring the food to you in the parking lot! Mark your calendar and bring your friends! Everyone's welcome!!



Spread God's Word

OSLC is touching our community in new and exciting ways with live



weekly worship broadcasts on KASM Radio, but in order to continue this ministry we need support. If you would like to take this opportunity to share God's word outside the walls of Our Savior's you can do so by sponsoring a service. Do you know a business that would be interested in partnering? Receive recognition or contribute anonymously. Give online by going to tinyurl.com/OSLCKASM or contact the church office 845-2405. The cost is \$50 per service streamed.



Welcome Worship & Breakfast for Pastor Anthony—June 6th

Mark your calendar!!! Come and welcome Pastor Anthony and his family to OSLC on Sunday, June 6th! The Congregational Life & Mission Team will be serving a pancake and sausage breakfast following the 9AM worship service. We will follow Covid guidelines and have tables set up in the Fellowship Hall and outside (weather permitting) to allow for social distancing. Please remember to make a reservation to attend the 9AM worship service by calling the church office or by visiting the church website. Let's celebrate the beginning of a new chapter in the life of our congregation!

Don't forget about your offering!!

Give in-person, online through the link found on the church website home page, or the Give+ app!!



Worship Schedule for May and Summer months:

We will continue to have in-person worship at 9 & 10:30AM through Sunday, May 23rd.

Beginning on Sunday, May 30th (Memorial Day weekend) we will have one service on Sunday mornings at 9AM.

Beginning on Wednesday, June 9th, we will have weekly worship services on Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM followed by an ice cream social. (Note: there will be no Wednesday night service on June 2nd as school is still in session.)

Congratulations, Love, & Prayers for the Class of 2021



We celebrate the following High School seniors and their families during worship on May 23rd at the 9 & 10:30AM worship: **Dylan Fisher**—son of Mike & Amy, **Andrew Hahn**—son of Jordan & Kim, **Erica Jungles**—daughter of Melessa, **Wynter Johnson**—son of Pat & Shelley, **Alex Aronson**—son of Mike & Angie, **Brooke Klaphake**—daughter of Rodney & Julie, **Kjersti Halverson**—daughter of Erick & Lisa, **Erin Juhl**—daughter of Mike & Marla, **Gina Wege**—daughter of Tim & Melanie, **Carissa Stark**—daughter of Jerry & Renee, **Natalie Kouhut**—daughter of Dwight & Molly, **Emily Evenson**—daughter of Kyle & Michelle, **Brandon Springer**—son of Brad & Erica

Farmers to Families Food Distribution

Our Savior's hosted another successful Farmers to Families food distribution event on April 17th. It was a great event with approximately 1,200 boxes of produce, dairy, and meat distributed to the community. There were some very generous donations at the event and the money was split up between the Salvation Army (who donated the use of a refrigerated truck, eggs, and meat to the event), the Albany Food Shelf, and OSLC. Another food distribution event is being planned for **Saturday May 8th**. This will again be a drive through food distribution event where community members can pick up a box filled with various produce, dairy and meat. Distribution will happen between 12-2PM (or until boxes are gone). This event would not be possible without our great volunteers! Interested in helping with unloading the delivery truck, directing traffic, or distributing the food boxes? Please contact Sally Sands, the OSLC event co-chair, at 320-493-5274.

Covid and In-Person Worship Update:

With input from the council, the Executive Committee made the decision to continue to offer in-person worship, even when the Covid case rate goes above 50 cases per 10,000 people. This is a change from our earlier policy, as we continue to try to be responsive to the situation.

The Executive Committee felt that it was important to continue to worship in-person, and the following were some of their considerations:

- * The fact that all area churches, including all Lutheran churches in the St. Cloud area, are remaining open
- * The majority of higher risk people have now been vaccinated
- * To our knowledge, no one has contracted the Covid virus while in worship services
- * Balancing the need for safety with the need for community and the negative effects of isolation
- * Pastor Anthony's decision for his current churches to remain open based on the very small number of people in his churches who've spread Covid at worship
- * We offer the options of Facebook and KASM for any who don't feel comfortable coming into the building yet
- * We have 2 worship services every Sunday, which allows more social distancing

We want to reiterate the need for social distancing and mask wearing! We will also be dismissing by row again, and encouraging people to visit outside after church instead of in the narthex.

Thank you for your help and cooperation in helping us stay safe and still remain open!



In April, we continued to make quilts for Terebinth Refuge house with Evie Fischer being the champion, finishing many quilts. Thank you to the WELCA ladies for donating two rolls of Polyester

batting. Luther Crest Bible Camp is hosting a quilt auction in August. If you plan to contribute a quilt to the auction that needs long-arm quilting, I will donate my time to finish your quilt by June 15. We are taking the summer off and will resume meeting again in September—see you then!

Elaine Randall ~ 320-260-8977

Congregational Council

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Matt.eggert@gmail.com

605-376-5104

Tim Sands, Vice President

Worship & Music

timsands5@gmail.com

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Angie Burg

angie_ahrens23@live.com

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**Colton Richard John
Hollermann**

April 10, 2021

Parents: Kori Wightman & Ethan
Hollermann

Sponsors: Hannah Hanson & Paul
Hollermann

Luke Francis Thell

April 25, 2021

Parents: Amber & Kurt Thell

Sponsors: Sara & Scott Gerads

Lauren Karen Larson

April 25, 2021

Parents: Ashley & Erik Larson

Sponsors: Lucas Larson, Taylor
Hocum, Christopher Hanauska

SAVE THE DATE

**Vacation Bible School
August 1st-5th**

Stay tuned for registration details
to come!!!



Our Saviors Spotlight

Andrew Hahn

2021 High School Senior



Tell us about yourself.

- I am a senior at Albany High School. I am involved in Basketball, Football, Track & Field, Student Council, Captains & Leaders, Letter Club, as well President of the National Honor Society and serve as a student representative on the School Board.

You grew up very active in the church, what has been your favorite OSLC memory over the years?

- My favorite memory is playing Ghost in the Graveyard after VBS when I was younger.

You recently served on the Call Committee—tell us about that experience?

- It was a really great experience. We had four great candidates that we interviewed over Zoom. Then we narrowed it down to two finalist that we met in person and ultimately we decided on extending a call to Pastor Anthony. I am really excited to see him bring his gift to our congregation.

What has been the highlight of your senior year at AHS?

- Winning the section final game against Pierz in Football.

What are your plans after graduation?

- I will be attending Augsburg University in the fall studying Exercise Science, as well as playing Football and Basketball.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

- I hope to be attending graduate school to get a Master's Degree in Athletic Training.

If you could share a meal with any person, dead or alive, who would it be and why?

- I would want to share a meal with Abe Lincoln because I would like to see how tall he really was.

Financial Summary as of March 31, 2021

Current YTD vs Prior YTD

General Fund Offerings/Income
 General Fund Expenses
 Net Difference
(income less expenses)

Mar-21	Mar-20
\$46,296	\$49,172
\$54,546	\$69,570
(\$8,249)	(\$20,398)

General Fund Offerings/Income
 Average Per Month
 Average Per Week

Annual Budget	Actual to-date
<i>Amounts Needed to meet Expenses</i>	<i>Amounts Given</i>
\$252,109	\$46,296
\$21,009	\$15,432
\$4,848	\$3,561

Please note: above information is based on General Fund giving and does not include designated funds.

Aluminum Can Collection

If you have aluminum cans, please consider donating them to the church! There is a small fenced in area beside the church garage where you can put your bags of aluminum cans. The youth are collecting them and the proceeds will go towards youth ministries at OSLC. Thank you for your donations!



The following items are needed this month at the Albany Food Shelf:

Pork & Beans
Saltine Crackers

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

The church needs members that are willing to be on a call list for the sump pump alarm. The system sends out texts to those on the list when the high-water sensor is triggered. This means the water level is above normal for the sump. We hope this will never happen, but if it does, some of us might be out of the area, so more backup is needed. Also needed is a member that has a portable generator to use for the water removal if there is a long power outage. Contact Angie in the office at 845-2405. Angie will arrange for the members to receive more information and/or look at the system so members know what will be involved in responding to a call. Thank you!!

Prayer BOX

May 2021
Hope



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declared the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

— Jeremiah 29:11

“Joshua said to them, “Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Be strong and courageous. This is what the LORD will do to all the enemies you are going to fight.”

— Joshua 10:25

“You will be secure, because there is hope; you will look about you and take your rest in safety. You will lie down, with no one to make you afraid, and many will court your favor.”

— Job 11:18-19

“the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.”

— Psalm 147:11

“being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

— Philippians 1:6

“But blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have the Lord their hope and confidence.”

— Lamentations 3:24

“Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD.”

— Psalm 31:24

Dear Heavenly Father,

I come to you today in need of hope. Inside I feel helpless, weak and hopeless. I need hope for love and kindness. There needs to be hope for a better future. Fill me with your light. Help me to walk in your light; and live in faith and glory. You provide us with perfect love at all times and have given us everything we need. We pray that you increase our faith and help us through the rocky times. Give us the strength to face these obstacles and let the difficult days strengthen our faith until we rely on You, Lord. In the Name of Christ Jesus, Amen.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday in-person Worship at 9 & 10:30AM
Worship live via Facebook or KASM 1150AM
radio Sundays at 9AM

Joyful Noise Online: 10:00 am

Interim Pastor: Pastor Denise Hanson
Cell: 701-713-5530/pastor.oslc2405@gmail.com

Ministry Associate for Youth & Families:
Diana Brown—diana.oslc@gmail.com

Music Coordinator: Mike Aronson

Administrative Assistant: Angela Mosman

Custodians: Bestman & Josephine Dennis

Church Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday from 9am-1pm

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