



Kindred ^{the} Spirit

November
2021

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

Sunday Morning Fall Schedule:

8AM Worship—Join in-person or Facebook Live

9AM Worship—Broadcast on KASM Radio

9:15AM—Sunday School & Adult Fellowship

10:30AM Worship—Join in-person

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 24 @ 7PM



November 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
10/31 Confirmation Sunday 8am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 9:00am Worship on KASM Radio 9:15am Sunday School & Adult Fellowship 9:30am Confirmation Reception 10:30am Worship Service—In Person <i>Affirmation of Baptism Service</i>	1	2 7pm NA Meeting	3 6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Building & Grounds Committee Meeting 7pm Adult Choir Practice 7:45pm Worship Team Practice	4	5 OFFICE CLOSED 9am Set up— Craft Sale	6 9am-2pm WELCA Craft Sale
7 All Saints' Sunday 8am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 9:00am Worship on KASM Radio 9:15am Sunday School & Adult Fellowship 10:30am Worship Service—In Person	8 7pm Garden Club	9 6pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7pm NA Meeting	10 6pm Confirmation 7pm Adult Choir Practice 7:45pm Worship Team Practice	11 OFFICE CLOSED Veterans Day 9:30am Great River Conference PALS	12 OFFICE CLOSED 5pm Pizza Making Set up	13 8am-1pm Pizza Making
14 Women's Thank Offering 8am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 9:00am Worship on KASM Radio 9:15am Sunday School & Adult Fellowship 10:30am Worship Service—In Person Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes deadline!	15 6pm Congregational Council	16 9:30am Lady Generators 1pm Quilting Squares 7pm NA Meeting	17 1pm Mary's Circle Bible Study 5:30pm Congregational Life & Mission Meeting 6pm Confirmation 7pm Adult Choir Practice 7:45pm Worship Team Practice	18	19 OFFICE CLOSED Synod Jr. High Gathering—Willmar	20
21 8am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 9:00am Worship on KASM Radio 9:15am Sunday School & Adult Fellowship 10:30am Worship Service—In Person	22	23 7pm NA Meeting	24 7pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service	25 OFFICE CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving!!	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27
28 8am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 9:00am Worship on KASM Radio 9:15am Sunday School & Adult Fellowship 10:30am Worship Service—In Person	29	30 7pm NA Meeting	12/1 6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Building & Grounds Committee Meeting 7pm Adult Choir Practice 7:45pm Worship Team Practice	12/2	12/3 OFFICE CLOSED	12/4
2						15

Pastor's Reflection

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you to all who participated in a cottage meeting! And a special thank you to all of you wonderful hosts! You opened your home and welcomed us in. Your gracious hospitality is wonderful. Many of you were curious to know what was being discussed in the other meetings. Now that all of them have met, you may freely discuss with each other what came out of the meeting that you attended.

After reviewing my notes on all of the wonderful discussions, there were some reoccurring themes that emerged.

What Are We Doing Well?

Common themes included the many ways the ministry of Our Savior's Lutheran responds and supports the needs of our community and area non-profit organizations. There was also a strong affirmation of the technology upgrades and continuing our online and radio ministries.

Another area of our ministry that many felt we are doing well or

excelling at includes our paid staff and all of our many volunteers. The ministry of Our Savior's largely depends on you, the members, volunteering your time and energy to get things done. From helping with worship, to maintaining our building and grounds, to serving on a committee or in a leadership role.

What Can We Improve On?

As I said in all of the meetings, there is always something that we can improve on. And many of you had a variety of ideas on different areas of our ministry that leadership can take a look at. To begin with, we will focus our attention on the most common themes that arose from these meetings. One of the most important areas that was suggested for leadership to focus on, was to avoid burning out our current volunteers by asking and encouraging more participation.

A second focus looked at offering more opportunities for fellowship and connecting with each other. With coming close to two years since the start of the pandemic, it is clear that many of you are longing for more opportunities to connect together again. I can say that some things are already in the works in this area and I look forward to sharing more details soon about some new opportunities that are coming!

What Is Your Dream for Our Savior's?

We certainly had some fun with this question. Not all of our dreams will probably come true, but has anyone ever had all of their dreams come true? Although, there was some good discussion that came from this question. There were dreams for a new, updated building. Which led to discussions on how to refresh our current space, and ultimately determining that we want the community to know that Our Savior's is the place where people feel God's presence and love, and their faith is nurtured.

Again, thank you to all who participated with your candid and honest answers. "In Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" 2 Corinthians 5:17. At Our Savior's, we are Re:Starting on a new path. A path that follows Christ. Come and see, everything has become new!

In Christ,
Pastor Anthony

Important November Worship Services —

All Saints' Sunday

During worship on All Saints' Sunday, November 7, we will remember and give thanks for all those faithful saints who have passed through death into the eternal care of our Lord Jesus in this past year.

Women's ThankOffering

The Women's ThankOffering Service is being held during both services on Sunday, November 14. Please remember to bring your thank offerings to help continue the ministries of the Women of the ELCA.

2021 Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Join us at 7pm on Wednesday, November 24 to give thanks and celebrate God's great blessings. Join us in-person, on Facebook Live or KASM 1150AM radio.



"And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name."
— 1 Chronicles 29:13



**It's that time of year again! Join in
the fun of packing a shoebox for

Operation
Christmas Child**

Packing a shoebox is as easy as 1, 2, 3....

1. Take home a box or two from the Narthex and fill it with age appropriate gifts to make any girl or boy happy;
2. Attach a label and include a personal note, plus \$9 to cover shipping;
3. Pray for the child who will receive your gift and return the box back to church by **Sunday, November 14**

Packing a Shoebox - suggestions	
Allowed	Not Allowed
Small Toys	Liquids, gels, lotions
School & Art Supplies	Sharp items, razors
Picture books/notebooks	Medications or Vitamins
Playing cards	Used clothing or toys
Clothing, underwear	Food, Candy or Gum
Comb/Hairbrush	Scary or war-related items
Shoes and socks	Breakable items
Toothbrush	Toothpaste
A Personal Note	

For more information, check out the Samaritan's Purse Website at SamaritansPurse.org. Go to What We Do → Operation Christmas Child

Facts about the shoebox program....

- Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization.
- Their mission is to provide shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies to impact children throughout the world and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.
- Since 1993, they've delivered boxes to over 188 million children in 170 countries.



OSLC YOUTH & FAMILIES

Pizza Time!!

Pizza making day is set for

Saturday,

November 13.

If you would like to help make Fall 2021 Pizza great, please contact Diana. Everyone is Welcome!!!!



Luther Crest Bible Camp

Registration is now open for 2022 Summer Bible Camp!! OSLC has a campership fund that will cover the cost for first time campers at 100%, second time campers at 50%, and as needed. Connect with Diana for more information on camperships.

Confirmation Class Schedule

11/3—Lesson #4

11/10—Lesson #5

11/17—Lesson #6

11/24—No Confirmation Class—
Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Acolyte Training

It's not just fire and big sticks!

Students in 6-8th grade that have not participated in an Acolyte Training session are expected to take this half hour introduction on serving in worship. There will be 2 opportunities in November: Sunday, November 14 at 9:30AM or Wednesday, November 17 at 5:30PM. Meet in the Sanctuary.

Fall Junior Youth Gathering

The Southwest Minnesota Synod Junior Youth Gathering is being held in Willmar, MN November 19-20, 2021. The gathering is open to those in grades 6-9th Cost of the gathering is \$60—this covers overnight expenses, meals, speakers, great music and a good time! Scholarships are available. Email Diana if interested.

Holy Communion Class

Save the Date—Wednesday, December 8 for those families that have younger students that are wanting to participate in the Sacrament. We are holding a class that introduces students to the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All ages are welcome.

July 24-28, 2022

Minneapolis, MN

The 2022 ELCA National Youth Gathering is open to all 8-12th graders. If you are interested in attending, being an adult volunteer, or want more details email Diana!

2022 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING
boundless
GOD BEYOND MEASURE

Cultivating a Heart of Gratitude

As parents, grandparents, awesome adults in the lives of the little ones we love, we all do it. "Suzy, tell grandma 'thank you.'" "Henry, write your uncle a thank you note." We encourage our children to be polite and to thank those that have given us gifts. We may even

be sure to model this action at the store to the cashier that rings us up or to the server at our favorite restaurant. It becomes part of our goal to raise tiny humans that have manners and are kind to others. But as the adults in the lives of the next generation of Jesus' disciples it goes much deeper than just "thank you." Jesus has a pattern of giving thanks - he gave thanks when he fed the 4000 with fish and bread, he thanked God at the tomb of Lazarus, and he gave thanks at the last supper with his disciples. We have the awesome responsibility to give thanks in all that we do so that we can prepare the hearts of our children and then plant the seeds of gratitude when we help teach and model thankfulness for our children in our own lives. When children see, learn, and practice gratitude they begin to grow in thankfulness for the world around them. Some practical ways to incorporate more gratitude in our lives and the lives of the children we love:

1. Pray! Before meal prayers is an easy way to add a little more gratitude in our daily lives.

For young children "God is great. God is good. And we thank God for our food. Amen"

Lutheran Common Table Prayer: "Come, Lord Jesus; be our guest. And let these gifts; to us be blest. And may there be a Godly share on every table everywhere. Amen"

2. Give! Sharing our treasures is a way to teach gratitude for our resources. Have your child gather together some outgrown toys, books, or clothing that still have life in them to give to a charitable thrift store. Many times the things we have around the house can be used by others—we can share the things we have and be grateful with what we have.

3. Learn! Dive into the bible to see how many times we learn to be grateful in the scriptures. There are many stories about giving thanks to God. We can learn about having a heart of gratitude in the very book we can give thanks for.

"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever." — Psalms 107:1 NRSV





Women's Group

Craft Sale

Saturday, November 6
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

You'll find a huge variety of fine, handmade crafts including quilts, table runners, placemats, aprons, wood crafts, produce, house plants and much more!

Bake Sale

Delicious baked goods and canned jams, jellies, salsa and others

Lefse

Church-made lefse! Hurry in.

Christmas Flea Market

Unwanted Christmas decorations can become your treasures!

Morning Coffee & Lunch

Coffee and rolls served in the morning
Soup and bars for lunch—take-outs available!

at Our Savior's
Lutheran Church
840 Lake Ave., Albany

Proceeds Benefit local Fire and Police, & Terebinth Refuge Women's Shelter



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Mike Aronson

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Custodians:

Bestman & Josephine Dennis

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday from 9am-1pm



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

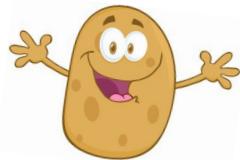
Baked Beans

Cream Corn

THANK YOU

Heartfelt Thanks for allowing the Forever Young Choir to perform at Our Savior's Lutheran Church!!

Another successful Tater Bar is in the books! Thank you to everyone who attended and enjoyed their baked potatoes and to all those that helped make the dinner a success. Without all the wonderful volunteers, the day could not have happened.



— Congregational Life & Mission Committee



At this time, we ask that you drop off your donations at the Food Shelf, located across the street from the church in the Senior Center building.

Albany Food Shelf Hours

1st Thursday—mornings

3rd Thursday—Early evenings

Connect with Edna

320-291-6623

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Our Saviors Spotlight

Kevin & Lisa Beuning



Tell us about your family and what brought you to Our Savior's.

- Kevin has two adult children: Cody who lives in Miller, SD and Jennifer who lives with her husband in Bertha, MN. Our household currently consists of us and our four lap dogs: Mason & Lily who are 15, Zoe is 12, and our newest edition Teddy is 2. We were starting to churchshop when Matt & Jess Ostendorf got married at OSLC. After visiting a few other area churches we decided we should try going to a couple Sunday services at OSLC and we were drawn in by the fun Pastor and how welcoming everyone was. Every week we came it felt like home, even though we didn't know anyone except Matt, Jess, and Jess's mom.

You both have been loyal servants to the OSLC community, tell us about some of the roles you have served.

- When we first joined the church, Lisa joined the choir and the next year we both joined the Council. Kevin was on the Building & Grounds committee and Lisa was on the Youth Education committee. We both joined the Worship & Music committee when it was formed and Kevin served 3 terms as Council Vice President. Kevin had more interest in the Audio/Video (AV) side of service and when Covid started that expanded. Now we both enjoy being on the AV team.

What has been your favorite OSLC memory over the years?

- Being married in a church where we felt like we were home. We have gotten to know so many amazing people over the years. Even though we have no actual family that goes to this church, we consider all of you our Family (friends who are family). Philippians 1:3 says "I thank my God every time I think of you." We thank God every week that he has brought us into a church family where we feel we belong and make a difference. God loves you all and so do we!

Covid greatly changed the way in which we worship. Take us back to March 2020 when we were no longer to worship in person and your involvement in helping us go virtual.

- Great Question! Many evening hours and weekend hours were spent by Kevin learning about the soundboard system, the camera systems, and working with Mike, Diana & Pastor to get us virtual. It was a very fast learning process! Kevin never missed a week to make sure Service was on for everyone. As time went on, the AV area was able to expand thanks to approval at the Annual Meeting in 2020. Our team was able to get a better camera system to go with our awesome soundboard system. In Fall 2020 we installed our camera system the best we could with only still a few of us allowed in church. We are thankful that we are able to get the AV Team back into a rotation and Kevin can start training more people on the camera system. It's super fun and not as complicated as you would think. If any of you have any curiosity of how this works, reach out to us, we would love to show you!

A lot happens behind the scenes to facilitate Sunday services, tell us what goes on each Sunday.

- We arrive an hour before service to fire up all the equipment, do battery checks, and sound checks. We try to do a mic sound check prior to broadcasted services to ensure the sound levels are not too high or low and all the programs are logged into and ready to go by 5 minutes before the service when the countdown on Facebook gets started and we go Live.

We know you are motorcycle enthusiasts, what have been some of your favorite trips?

- We do enjoy being out on the motorcycle. We just upgraded our motorcycle this past year so we will be able to take longer trips. But we really enjoy going on Charity runs and leisure riding with friends & family. Our favorite one is the Disabled American Veterans Bike Run we help coordinate every year for Chapter 12. It's so rewarding to raise funds for such a great group, because we see the positive impact it has on our Veterans. Our favorite trips have actually been touring our beautiful state in our Jeep by following the Scenic ByWays and hiking in the State Parks. For our 11 year Wedding Anniversary we hiked the hiking club trails in 11 different parks.

November Worship Volunteers

	<i>Lesson Reader</i>		<i>Audio/Video</i>	
	8:00AM	10:30AM	8:00AM	10:30AM
Sunday Nov. 7	Denise Croatt	TBD	Matt Eggert & Kevin Beuning	Pat Johson
Sunday Nov. 14	Angela Mergen	TBD	Kevin & Lisa Beuning	Matthew Rafteseth
Sunday Nov. 21	Jolene Lobitz	TBD	Kevin Beuning & Matthew Rafteseth	Eric Ruch
Sunday Nov. 28	Al Amdahl	Paul Fauk	Kevin & Lisa Beuning	Eric Ruch

Financial Summary as of September 30, 2021

Current YTD vs Prior YTD
General Fund Offerings/Income
General Fund Expenses
Net Difference (income less expenses)

Sep-21	Sep-20
\$138,445	\$140,931
\$170,330	\$176,583
(-\$31,885)	(-\$35,653)

General Fund Offerings/Income
Average Per Month
Average Per Week

Annual Budget	Actual to-date
Amounts Needed to meet Expenses	Amounts Given
\$252,109	\$138,445
\$21,009	\$15,383
\$4,848	\$3,550

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

Don't forget about your offering!!

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



Congregational Council

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320-260-1039

Spreading God's Word on KASM Radio

Many people have shared how much they enjoy the Sunday morning worship broadcast on KASM radio. But this ministry requires financial support to keep it going.



To help share God's word outside the walls of Our Savior's you can do so by sponsoring a service. Or do you know a business that would be interested in partnering? Donors can choose to receive recognition or contribute anonymously. To give, contact the church office 845-2405. The cost is \$50 per service streamed.

**Newsletter deadline
is the 15th of
the month**

OSLC MISSION:

Our Savior's Lutheran Church is one people united in Christ, empowered by God's grace through worship and the study of His Word, to glorify God by serving and witnessing in the community of the world.



“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

“Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before.”

— Daniel 6:10

“I will give thanks to the LORD because of his righteousness; I will sing the praises of the name of the LORD Most High.”

— Psalm 7:17

“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.”

— Psalm 107:1

“Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.”

— 1 Chronicles 16:8-11

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

— Philippians 4:6-7

“With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. In that day you will say: Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted.”

— Isaiah 12:3-4

“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.”

— 1 Timothy 2:1-2

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PERMIT #2
ALBANY, MN 56307



Lutheran Church Vol. 27, No. 11

In-Person Sunday worship at 8 and 10:30AM

Streamed on Facebook Live at 8AM

Broadcast on KASM 1150AM Radio at 9AM

Pastor: Anthony Christoffels

Cell: 507-848-0017/pastor.oslc2405@gmail.com

Ministry Associate for Youth & Families:

Diana Brown—diana.oslc@gmail.com

Music Coordinator: Mike Aronson

Administrative Assistant: Angela Mosman

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Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday from 9am-1pm

oursaviors@albanytel.com

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