



the Kindred Spirit

May
2022

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

Sunday Morning Worship at 9AM
In-Person or Online

Broadcast on KASM 1150AM Radio at 1PM

Facebook: OSLC56307



May 2022

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
1 9am Worship Service— In-Person, Online or KASM Radio 10:15am Packing of Backpacks for Pockets of Hope 10:15am Sunday School & Adult Fellowship	2 12pm Staff Meeting	3 7pm NA Meeting	4 6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Building & Grounds Committee Meeting 7pm Adult Choir Practice	5 8am MOM National Day of Prayer Benefit Breakfast 1pm Prayer Circle Meeting	6 OFFICE CLOSED 4pm Fellowship Hall Reserved for evening	7 Church Reserved for Wedding
8 New Member Sunday 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15am Sunday School & Adult Fellowship 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	9 12pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Garden Club	10 6pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7pm NA Meeting	11 9am Garage Sale Setup 6pm Confirmation 7pm Adult Choir Practice	12 9:30am Great River Conference PALS 5-7pm OSLC Garage Sale	13 OFFICE CLOSED 8am-5pm OSLC Garage Sale	14 8am-Noon OSLC Garage Sale
15 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15am Sunday School & Adult Fellowship 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	16 12pm Staff Meeting 6pm Congregational Council Meeting	17 9:30am Lady Generators 7pm NA Meeting	18 1pm Mary's Circle Bible Study 5:30pm Congregational Life & Mission Meeting	19	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21
22 Graduate Recognition 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15am Congregational Meeting 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	23 12pm Staff Meeting	24 7pm NA Meeting	25	26	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28
29 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	30 12pm Staff Meeting	31 7pm NA Meeting	6/1 6:30pm Building & Grounds Committee Meeting	6/2 1pm Prayer Circle Meeting	6/3 OFFICE CLOSED	6/4

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

Pastor's Reflection



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

We are coming to the end of our first programmatic year in this new chapter of our ministry together. And what a year it has been. Certainly, a year of *New Beginnings*. From RE:STARTing old and new in-person ministries, to RE:CONNECTing with old and new relationships. We also spent these last few months focused on RE:BUILDing our relationship with God through our Lent series *Building Upon the Covenant of Holy Baptism*. Like I said, what a year we've had!!

And I'd like to say thank you! Thank you to all of our many helpers and volunteers that keep the ministry of Our Savior's Lutheran going. Our paid staff are available to provide support for the ministry that we do. However, it is the work of everyone, that makes the ministry happen. From our various serving groups to Sunday School teachers and confirmation table guides. From helping with worship in some form to maintaining our building. From mowing the lawn to vacuuming the sanctuary. From serving on a committee or team, to answering that call to serve in a leadership position. Each and every one of you adds value to the ministry that we do. And for that, I say "Thank you!"

Now, as we come to the end of the programmatic year, our staff is already busy looking and planning for next year. And I'm excited for the many new opportunities that will be coming to Our Savior's over the next several months. One of these new opportunities I can share with you now!

Over the next month or so, we will be bringing a new form of communication to Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Soon, we will be able to send text messages to members and friends of Our Savior's Lutheran! That's right! We are upgrading our communication system to better serve our members and enhance the ministry of OSLC! More information will be coming soon on this exciting opportunity.

In Christ,
Pastor Anthony



Please join us for coffee hour following the 9am service. Get to know members of the congregation through fellowship while enjoying a treat or two!!

****May 22 will be the last coffee hour of the season****

May Worship Schedule:

We have a variety of special events planned for our May worship services. We hope to see you in worship!!

May 1st—Packing Party! - After worship, we will assemble backpacks for Pockets of Hope

May 8th—New Member Sunday, Blessing of Mothers, Blessing of Pockets of Hope backpacks

May 15th—Last Day of Sunday School

May 22nd—Blessing of Seniors, Congregational Meeting after worship



A big **THANK YOU** to everyone that donated to the Pockets of Hope drive. Your generosity and love will be greatly appreciated by any child that will receive this wonderful gift.

Reminder that backpacks will be packed May 1st following service and all backpacks will be blessed during worship on May 8th.



Congregational Meeting May 22 at 10:15AM

There will be a congregational meeting following worship on **Sunday, May 22nd**. The meeting will begin approximately at 10:15am. The agenda for the meeting includes:

- † Discuss and vote on remodeling project
- † New communication opportunities
- † Financial update

Summer Worship & Picnic August 14, 2022

Worship & Church Picnic at North Park Pavilion (Jaycee's shelter). 9AM worship, followed by food, fellowship & fun!! More details to come.

Congregational Council

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Plane Vouchers For Sale!!!!

Due to the cancellation of the mission trip to Colorado,



a Sun Country flight voucher worth \$780 is for sale. You will need to book a flight with Sun Country by the end of March 2023, but do not have to actually fly by that time. If you would like to purchase this ticket or have any questions, please contact Deb Solarz at 320-250-0273

National Day of Prayer Benefit Breakfast at Seven Dolors

Mother of Mercy Foundation presents National Day of Prayer Benefit Breakfast—Thursday, May 5th from 8-9AM at Seven Dolors Church. Keynote Speaker Father Scott Pogatchnik. Free tickets, free will collection will be taken at the event. Limited seating. Contact Renee Anderson to reserve your seat in advance. 320-845-5530



The Quilting Squares will not be meeting in May due to the Garage Sale. I will be handing my duties off as leader of the Quilting Squares to Deb Solarz as I am moving to Florida. Many thanks to all the ladies that have made Terebinth Refuge quilts with their loving hands and talent the last five years.

~ Elaine Randall

OSLC YOUTH & FAMILIES

Sunday School

The last day of Sunday School will be on May 15. We will have the Sunday School kiddos sing during Worship that morning.

Graduate Sunday—May 22

Attention Class of 2022—OSLC wants to celebrate this milestone with you! Please connect with Diana to have your senior photos and future plans included in the preparations. Blessings on your many adventures awaiting!!

Confirmation Schedule

May 4—Highway 238 Adoption cleanup

May 11—Barbeque & Kickball

Welcome to the Table—Holy Communion Class of 2022

After weeks of preparation and learning, we welcomed 9 children of God to his table on Sunday, April 24.

Audrey Beuning—daughter of Brian & Cindy Beuning,

Alice Brown—daughter of Jason & Rhiannon Brown,

Hudson Gruber—son of Ryan & Kay Gruber, **Aksel Halvorson**—son of

Erick & Lisa Halvorson, **Katelyn Hoff**—daughter of Jesse & Michelle

Hoff, **Ellie Kugler**—daughter of Brad & Kayla Kugler, **Zachary Sands**—

son of Tim & Sally Sands, **Aliya Thelen**—daughter of Tom & Becky

Thelen, **Brianna Thelen**—daughter of Tom & Becky Thelen



A NEW United States Citizen Congratulations Bestman!!!

After a long journey, we celebrate with our member Bestman Dennis who officially received his US Citizenship on April 12, 2022. Bestman and his family have been members of Our Savior's for the past 5 years and he has been employed as our church custodian since January 2019. We appreciate his commitment to the care of Our Savior's. God Bless you and your family Bestman! You are so deserving of this recognition!



Changes to KASM Broadcast

For the last two years, our worship service has been not only broadcasted on the internet through Facebook, but we've also been on the radio. The partnership between KASM and OSLC began as an outreach opportunity during the early days of the pandemic. Now, two years later, we are making some changes in order to enhance this partnership and provide a great service to our members and the greater community.



Starting Sunday, May 8th, the Sunday worship service will be broadcasted on KASM at 1:00pm. Our in-person worship service will continue at 9am.

It costs \$50 to sponsor a worship service on the radio. If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast, please contact the church office. When sponsoring a radio broadcast, you can also designate if the sponsorship is "in honor/memory of" someone.



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

Kleenex
Tomato Sauce

Midweek Summer Worship



Starting Wednesday, June 8th we will be having weekly worship on Wednesdays at 6:30PM followed by an ice cream social. New this year, on the 4th Wednesday of the month we will worship outside on the patio—BYOC (Bring Your Own Chair)!



Music Notes

Worship & Music THANK YOU

As we start wrapping up another program year, a heartfelt *Thank You* to all of you who have contributed your time and talent to our worship experience together.

Whether it be “behind the scenes” - baking bread, audio/video technology, radio sponsors, holiday decorations, altar guild, and committee members; or those “up front” - readers, ushers, special music, Adult Choir, Sunday School Choir, and worship team, please know that each of your individual and collective contributions are much appreciated.

It definitely takes an army of staff and volunteers to do God's work; and, for what you have done, and will continue to do, we say **THANK YOU!!!!**

Your partner in ministry,
Mike Aronson
Director of Music Ministry

Financial Summary as of March 31, 2022

Current YTD vs Prior YTD (actuals)

General Fund Offerings/Income

General Fund Expenses

Net Difference

(income less expenses)

Mar-22	Mar-21
\$37,929	\$46,296
\$60,452	\$54,546
(\$22,523)	(\$8,249)

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>
\$256,880	\$37,929
\$21,407	\$12,643
\$4,940	\$2,918

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



*An update from Kristin Wolford,
missionary to the Dominican Republic
from April 20, 2022—"Growing Up
& Gearing Up"*

Since Agua Ramas Vivas opened in July 2021, we have sold 275,435 gallons of clean water to members of the community with Loncin motorcycles with trailers. The operations and delivery teams have learned so much over the last 9 months. Now, we are preparing to meet the demand for water during the "hot season" in the Dominican Republic by purchasing a truck.

We are so thankful for the collaboration of generous individuals and partnering churches who have invested so we can purchase this truck and order more cages and

water jugs. People say our water is "the best!" On this Caribbean island, people are going to need a lot of it in the months to come.

There is still time if you'd like to sponsor a cage & water jugs, too.

- \$225 = 1 storage cage willed with 18 5-gallon jugs of water

Growing Up—Youth & Children

Our leadership team continues to serve children every week by helping with homework, studying the Bible, bringing hope, fun and encouragement to families living in difficult conditions. Young leaders also grow as they spend time with the children. They learn that they can make a difference as they step out in faith and do their best to follow Jesus' command to "love one another as I have loved you."

Garage Sale

The annual garage sale is set for May 12-14th. Items can be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall **after** May 8th. Please mark all your items, except clothing. Set up will be Wednesday, May 11 at 9AM. If you have a few hours to help with the sale, come by whenever you are free. We appreciate any help.

Hours of Operation:

Thursday 5/12—5:00-7:00PM

Friday 5/13—8:00AM—5:00PM

Saturday 5/14—8:00—NOON

Serving Survey

If you have not yet returned the serving survey, there is still time! Please use the envelope that was enclosed with the survey and return to the church at your next earliest convenience. Thank you!!!!

Luther Crest Auction

Quilters and crafters—it is time to get your items ready for the annual Luther Crest Bible Camp's auction in August. We will gather the items the end of July and bring everything to the camp. Happy Crafting & Quilting!!!!

2022 SW MN SWO

Convention—Friday May 13th

Celebrating the 35th anniversary of the forming of the Women of the ELCA. Opening worship by Bishop Dee Pederson, Guest speaker Rev. Heather Culuris, Synod Minister. Come, join your sisters in Christ for worship, singing, sharing, learning, business, and fellowship. Held at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Benson, MN. See the OSLC bulletin board for registration information and details.

May Worship Volunteers

Lesson Reader

Audio/Visual

9am Sunday, May 1st

Lynda Hartwig

Matt Eggert & Matthew

9am Sunday, May 8th

Jolene Lobitz

Lisa & Kevin Beuning

9am Sunday, May 15th

Jamie Feeney

Eric Ruch & Pat Johnson

9am Sunday, May 22nd

Sandy Paulsen

Kevin Beuning & Jerry Stark

9am Sunday, May 29th

Angela Mergen

Matt Eggert & Pat Johnson



***We all make mistakes; some accidental, others intentional and sinful.
The Bible has many stories of those who make mistakes.***

“So be humble under God’s powerful hand. Then he will lift you up when the right time comes. Give all your worries to him, because he cares for you.”

— 1 Peter 5:6-7

“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

“Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy. Blessed is the one who always trembles before God, but whoever hardens their heart falls into trouble.”

— Proverbs 28:13-14

“But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. Turn to me and have mercy on me; show your strength on behalf of your servant; save me, because I serve you just as my mother did.”

— Psalm 86:15-16

“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.” The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him.”

— Lamentations 3:22-25

“Therefore, there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”

— Romans 8:1-4

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840 Lake Avenue

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Albany, MN 56307-0670



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Morning Worship at 9AM—Join In-Person or Online. Broadcast on KASM 1150AM Radio at 1PM each Sunday

10:15AM Sunday School & Adult Fellowship

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

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

Director of Music Ministry: Mike Aronson

Administrative Assistant: Angie Mosman

Custodians: Bestman & Josephine Dennis

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

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