



the Kindred Spirit

September
2024

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



Sunday Morning Worship at 9AM
In-Person or Online

Fall Programming Returns in September!
Details inside

September 2024

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 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 7pm NA Meeting	4 1pm Women's Bible Study	5	6 OFFICE CLOSED	7
8 Rally Sunday!!! 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15 Faith Explorers 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	9 12pm Staff Meeting 6pm Men's Garage 7pm Garden Club	10 5:30pm Dinner Theatre Practice 7pm Forever Young Concert 7pm NA Meeting	11 1pm Quilting Squares 5:15 GIFT—Meal, Worship & Activities 7:30pm Choir Practice	12 OFFICE CLOSED 9:30am Great River Conference PALS 6:30pm NIB Team Meeting	13 OFFICE CLOSED	14
Albany Pioneer Days						
15 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15 Faith Explorers 10:15 Filled with Grace Session 12pm Fellowship Hall Reserved 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	16 12pm Staff Meeting 6pm Congregational Council Meeting	17 9:30am Lady Generators 5:30pm Dinner Theatre Practice 7pm NA Meeting	18 1pm Women's Bible Study 5:15 GIFT—Meal, Worship & Activities 7:30pm Choir Practice	19	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21
22 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15 Faith Explorers 10:15 Filled with Grace Session 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	23 12pm Staff Meeting 6pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7pm Building & Grounds Committee Meeting	24 5:30pm Dinner Theatre Practice 7pm NA Meeting	25 5:15 GIFT—Meal, Worship & Activities 7:30pm Choir Practice	26 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30pm NIB Team Meeting	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28
29 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15 Faith Explorers 10:15 Filled with Grace Session 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	30 12pm Staff Meeting	10/1 5:30pm Dinner Theatre Practice 7pm NA Meeting	10/2 1pm Women's Bible Study 5:15 GIFT—Meal, Worship & Activities 7:30pm Choir Practice	10/3 OFFICE CLOSED 1pm Prayer Circle	10/4 OFFICE CLOSED	10/5
Dinner Theatre Set Up						
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.

The Sharing of the Peace is more than just a ritual that we do when we gather together for worship. It truly is an essential spiritual practice. That before we feast on the Bread of Life, we go and make peace with our neighbors.

Here at Our Savior's, we have been waving the peace sign to everyone in the room, and I believe this action came about because of the pandemic. The next time you are sharing the peace in worship, I encourage you to actually look into the eyes of the neighbors around

you and make peace with each other by sharing a sign of that peace, whether that's a handshake, a hug, or even using that peace sign. And as you do so, say, "Peace be with you."

By doing this, you acknowledge that whatever past grievances you have with each other are being put behind you. Now only do so if you truly mean it, because remember, this is not simply a meaningless ritual that we do, it is a transformative spiritual practice, that is essential to preparing our hearts and minds for the receiving of our forgiveness and the feasting on the Bread of Life.

In Christ,
Pastor Anthony



SAVE THE DATE

MYSTERY DINNER THEATRE

The women of Our Savior's Lutheran Church present "And So They Had None" a comic mystery dinner theatre for adults. **Sunday, October 6th at 5PM**, held at Our Savior's. \$30 tickets include a three-course dinner and show. For reservations call Deb at 320-250-0273. Menu choices selected during reservations; your choice of chicken alfredo, lasagna, or meatless gluten-free lasagna, salad, vegetables, and dessert All tickets are to be paid in advance, deadline October 2nd.

Introducing....

Our ministry theme for 2024-2025!

FULFILLED: Filling our Faith Backpack

Throughout this programmatic year, we will be filling you up with important and practical resources that you need for faithful living.

This fall we will focus on Grace and Gratitude. This winter we will look at how hope and trust are important attributes to our life of faith. Then next spring, we will conclude this theme during the Easter season being *Filled with the Promise of Life*.



There will be a variety of presenters throughout the year, coming to **Fill our Faith Backpack** up with the resources that we need for faithful living.

Filled with Grace: Planning for Tomorrow

The first presentation in our FulFulfilled series will be a three-part workshop on End-of-Life Preplanning.

- † Sunday, September 15— “Why Funerals are Important” led by Pastor Anthony
- † Sunday, September 22— “Working with a Funeral Home” led by Sara Thompson (Funeral Director at Patton-Schad Funeral & Cremation Services)
- † Sunday, September 29— “Addressing Legal Matters before a Funeral” led by Nick Adams (Attorney at Pemberton Law)



All three sessions will take place after worship in the fellowship hall from 10:15-11:00AM. There is no cost to attend any (or all) of these sessions.

Men's Garage

Our next Men's Garage gathering will be Monday, September 9th at 6:00PM. There's great food and cold drinks. We are looking for hosts for September and beyond. If you would like to host a Men's Garage gathering, please talk to Pr. Anthony for all the details.



Lady Generators

Our September meeting will be on Tuesday the 17th at 9:30AM. Come for coffee as we start discussing and planning the fall Craft Sale that will be held in November.



Members of OSLC,
Thank you so much for your generous donation of blankets for our LUV blanket program at St. Cloud Hospital. We greatly appreciate you helping us to keep our program going.
Sincerely, Mary Anderson

Women's Bible Study

Bible study on Wednesdays resumes in September with a new book—Ecclesiastes. Pr. Anthony will lead this study as we look at the writing of King Solomon in this later years. Chapter One of Ecclesiastes will be on Wednesday, September 4th at 1:00PM.



Quilting Squares are back in action!!! We will be meeting on Wednesday, September 11th at 1:00PM to begin cutting squares to make more quilt tops throughout the year. Please come and help us out, we have scissors and some cutting wheels. All are welcome, no experience necessary.



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

Coffee
Orange Juice

FAITH FORMATION RESUMES IN SEPTEMBER

At Our Savior's, we have two exciting programs for families to connect with God and each other.

Faith Explorers

Age 3 through 2nd grade
Sundays at 10:15am

Faith Explorers is our newest program, specifically focused on connecting young students with God through familiar Bible stories and activities. Faith Explorers meet in the basement of OSLC on Sundays after worship from 10:15-11:15 from September to May. **Begins Sunday, September 8!**



GIFT (Generations in Faith Together)

3rd grade through 12th grade
Wednesday at 6:00pm

GIFT is a midweek worship and education program, specifically focused on connecting families with God and each other through conversations about faith and life. GIFT families meet in the fellowship hall at OSLC on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:15 from September to May. There is a family meal offered from 5:15-6:00 each week. **Begins Wednesday, September 11!**



To register and get more information on Faith Explorers and GIFT, please go to www.oursaviorslutheranalbany.org

**“FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED IN MY NAME,
THERE AM I AMONG THEM.” -- MATTHEW 18:20**

Faith Formation Teachers Needed

This fall, we are starting a new program on Sunday mornings that will be similar to Sunday School. Faith Explorers, is specifically focused for children age 3 through 2nd grade. If spending time with children brings you joy, would you consider being a teacher or helper? We need a few more adults to help teach familiar Bible stories to our young students. Faith Explorers meet in the basement of OSLC on Sundays after worship from 10:15-11:15 from September to May. Pr. Anthony is excited to answer any questions you have.

Six+

6th grade through 12th grade
Wednesdays at 6:00pm

During GIFT, many of the activities are family orientated. Students who are in grade 6 and older will take part in separate group activities for a portion of GIFT. The whole family will start and end the evening at the same time.

There is no need to complete a separate registration for Six+. Please register your whole family for GIFT.



SIX+
L E A R N I N G &
G R O W T H

Open Position at OSLC—Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Our Savior's is looking for a part-time, Director of Youth and Family Ministry. This position focuses on building disciples for Christ within relational environments and equip our students and families to share their faith with others. We're looking for someone who can build relationships with people of all ages, especially ages 3-18.



The full job description is available at www.oursaviorslutheranalbany.org/employment or at the QR code above.

September Worship Volunteers

Lesson Reader

Audio/Visual

9am Sunday, Sept. 1st

TBD

Kevin & Lisa Beuning

9am Sunday, Sept. 8th

Lynda Hartwig

Matt Eggert &
Jerry Stark

9am Sunday, Sept. 15th

Bruce Abraham

Eric Ruch &
Pat Johnson

9am Sunday, Sept. 22nd

Denise Croatt

Kevin Beuning &
Matthew Rafteseth

9am Sunday, Sept. 29th

Jolene Lobitz

Kevin & Lisa Beuning

2024 VBS SUCCESS & GRATITUDE

“Whenever I’m afraid, I put my trust in you.” ~ Psalm 56:3

In August, Vacation Bible School “Camp Firelight” 2024 was a success thanks to our volunteers. It takes many hands and hearts to make VBS a success, from leaders, to music, to kitchen helpers, food donations, parents and even our local fire department. Nearly 60 children and 10 adults from Our Savior’s and the community successfully participated in 5 evenings of activities connecting them to God and each other. Volunteers served 375 meals over the course of the evenings. That’s a lot of full bellies and full hearts, all in the name of Jesus. **THANK YOU** to all of our participants and volunteers for making VBS 2024 a hit, we couldn’t do it without you!



Committee Reports



Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee continues to seek a candidate to fill our Director of Youth and Family Ministry position. We have explored alternative ways to creatively address the tasks associated with the job description as we move into the fall/winter/spring seasons and have blessings to consider. Any decision-making regarding offers of employment will be approved by the Church Council. God will continue to guide us in our work and bless our congregation with gifted individuals to help us worship, learn, connect, and serve.

Worship & Music

The Worship and Music Committee will be meeting the 4th Monday in August to coordinate plans for worship opportunities and beautiful music on behalf of our congregation as we move into the fall season.

Forever Young is Back



The Forever Young Concert series is back at OSLC on Tuesday, September 10th at 7PM. The theme this

year is "Let There Be Peace" A free-will offering and food shelf items will be collected at the concert.

Camila Juliana Schei

Born: 2/3/2024

Parents: Chloe & Justin Schei

Sponsors: Gabriel Nieves & Yarei Flores

Baptized: June 23, 2024

Olivia Blake Christen

Born: 3/31/2024

Parents: Chelsey Wolbeck & Jeremy Christen

Sponsors: Shawn Wolbeck & Charlotte Deadrick

Baptized: July 7, 2024

Lindy Marie Bestor

Born: 4/16/2024

Parents: Jaclynn & Blair Bestor

Sponsors: Amanda & MacKinsey Nygaard, Lexi & Jordan Nadeau, Emily & Chris Herbst

Baptized: July 14, 2024

Charlotte Marie Muellner

Born: 4/17/2024

Parents: Amanda & Steven Muellner

Sponsors: Eric Muellner & Christina Thelen

Baptized: August 18, 2024



“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

— Galatians 5:22-23

“But how is it your credit if you received a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.”

— 1 Peter 2:20

“I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry.”

— Psalm 40: 1

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

— Galatians 6:9

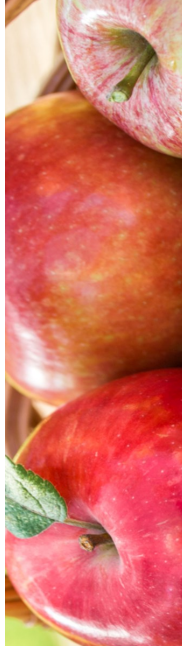
“For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.”

— Habakkuk 2:3

“for in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is not hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.”

— Romans 8:24-25

Most Precious Heavenly Father, thank you for giving me patience as a fruit of your Holy Spirit. I need to remain in your word, and obey it. Help me to keep my eyes focused on Jesus and the word, so I may run the race as you intended. You are renewing my strength daily, and I give you praise. When I run, I will not be weary. When I walk, I will not faint. I will walk in the patience you've given me each day of my life. Through the grace and mercy of Jesus the Christ, Amen.



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

GIFT returns Wednesday, Sept. 11 @ 5:15PM

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

Director of Music Ministry: Mike Aronson

Administrative Assistant: Angie Mosman

Custodian: Bella Kedrowski

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

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