



the **Kindred Spirit**

November
2024

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



Sunday Morning Worship at 9AM

In-Person or Online

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 27th at 6:30pm

GIFT—Every Wednesday

Meal beginning at 5:15pm

November 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
10/27 Confirmation Sunday 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15 Faith Explorers 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	10/28 12pm Staff Meeting 6pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7pm Building & Grounds Committee Meeting	10/29 7pm NA Meeting 7pm Synod Event— Fellowship Hall	10/30 5:15 GIFT—Meal, Worship & Activities 7pm Trunk or Treat— OSLC Parking Lot	10/31	1 OFFICE CLOSED 10am Craft Sale Set-Up Luther Crest Summer Camp Registration Opens	2 OSLC Fall Craft Sale 9am—2pm
3 All Saint's Sunday 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 9am Oliver Ellsworth Baptism 10:15 Faith Explorers 11am Decorating at Santa's Pioneer Village 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	4 12pm Staff Meeting 6pm Men's Garage	5 7pm NA Meeting	6 1pm Women's Bible Study 5:15 GIFT—Meal, Worship & Activities	7 1pm Prayer Circle Meeting 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack 32	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9
10 Women's Thank Offering Service 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15am Faith Explorers 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	11 OFFICE CLOSED 7pm Garden Club Meeting	12 7pm NA Meeting	13 1pm Quilting Squares 5:15 GIFT—Meal, Worship & Activities 6pm Bibles handed out during GIFT	14 9:30am Great River Conference PALS 6:30pm NIB Team Meeting	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16
17 New Member Sunday Intent Sunday Bible Sunday 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15am Faith Explorers 10:15am New Member Reception 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	18 12pm Staff Meeting 6pm Congregational Council Meeting 6:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 206 Meeting	19 9:30am Lady Generators 7pm NA Meeting	20 1pm Women's Bible Study 5:15 GIFT—Meal, Worship & Activities 7:30pm Choir Practice	21 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack 32	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> SWELCA Jr. High Youth Gathering </div>
24 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15 Faith Explorers 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	25 12pm Staff Meeting 6pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7pm Building & Grounds Committee Meeting	26 6:30pm NIB Team Meeting 7pm NA Meeting	27 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service 7:30pm Dessert Potluck	28 OFFICE CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving!!	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30

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.

Our ministry theme this year is titled *FulFilled: Filling Our Faith Backpacks*. We began this theme with “Grace,” a free, unmerited gift. Because without grace, we can’t follow Jesus. Without grace, we’re nothing. And this free, unmerited grace fills us with gratitude. Being filled with gratitude is this feeling of thankfulness and joy for what we have.

And I’ve been seeing gratitude all over at Our Savior’s. Maybe you have too. I’ve seen gratitude in children laughing and smiling as they sing to the Lord during Faith Explorers.

I’ve seen gratitude in families gathered together to share a meal and discuss their faith at GIFT. I’ve seen gratitude in parents who can send their children to camp through the generosity of our campership fund. I’ve seen gratitude in nearly 2,000 adults and children receiving freezes during a hot Heritage Day parade.

Gratitude is truly all around us, and this gratitude is a product of the grace that we have received from God. Being filled with grace, you are free to be filled with gratitude.

In Christ,
Pastor Anthony



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

All Saints Sunday

During worship on Sunday, November 3rd, we will be honoring and remembering those in our congregation who have died in this last year. During this service, you will be invited to light a candle in memory of a loved one who has joined the triumphant, as we all wait for the coming of Christ and join Him around His heavenly throne.

Men's Garage

Our next Men's Garage gathering will be Monday, November 4th at 6:00pm **IF**



SOMEONE VOLUNTEERS TO HOST.

If you would like to host a Men's Garage gathering, please talk to Pr. Anthony for all the details.

Raise the Roof

On October 13th, we voted to replace our hail damaged roof with a metal shake roofing material. Our congregation decided that of all the options available, this is the best structural and financial option for Our Savior's. Doing this upgrade will require an additional \$50,000 after the insurance proceeds. In the coming weeks, you will be invited to patriciate in our *Raise the Roof* campaign.



Women's Thank Offering

The Women's 2024 Thank Offering Service is being held during worship on Sunday, November 10th. Please remember to bring your thank offerings to help continue the ministries of the Women of the ELCA. Thank you!!! Please direct any questions to Dee Nelson or Kaye Schmainda.

Women's Bible Study

During Bible Study on Wednesdays, we are working through the book *Ecclesiastes*.

In November, we'll be looking at:
November 6th—Chapter 5
November 20th—Chapter 6

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

On Wednesday, November 27th, we will have a worship of Thanksgiving at 6:30pm. After worship, you are invited to connect with each other through a potluck dessert.



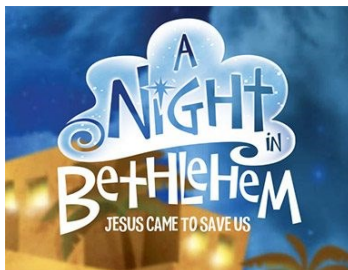
“A Night in Bethlehem”

Sunday, December 8, 2024 marks the return of “A Night in Bethlehem”. Two events are happening that evening.

- + Come any time from 4:30-6:00pm and stroll the Marketplace. Sample food, visit with local residents of Bethlehem, and try your hand at an activity or two. Kids can even “purchase” a few souvenirs to take home.
NOTE: tickets (free) are required to visit the marketplace.
- † At 6:15pm, the retelling of the Nativity Story will take place in the Sanctuary. Characters of old will take us back to the time leading up to the birth of our Savior. Join in singing some favorite Christmas hymns.
NOTE: NO tickets are required for this event.

Tickets for the Marketplace can be obtained from Lisa Beuning, Kaye Schmainda, or at the church office beginning November 3rd. Donations for the Food Shelf are encouraged.

Direct any questions to Lisa Beuning or Kaye Schmainda.



B-I-B-L-E that's the BOOK for Me!

Wednesday, November 13th & Sunday, November 17th

Students in 3rd grade will have placed in their hands—the Word! A bible of their very own to explore the stories of our faith. Our Preschool students will also be receiving a Storybook Bible for them and their families to read together.



Join us on Wednesday, November 13th during GIFT or Sunday, November 17th during worship and we would love to gift you a Bible. If you're unable to attend one of these dates but would like a Bible, please reach out to Pastor Anthony or the church office.

Food Drive

During the month of November, Our Savior's will be doing a food drive for the local Albany Food Shelf. Help us make a difference by feeding those in need. More details will follow on specific dates and needs.



New Member Sunday

Save the Date!! On Sunday, November 17th during the 9am service we will be welcoming a handful of new members to Our Savior's. Join us to support and pray for these new members. A light reception will follow worship.



Quilting Squares are back in action this fall and will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, November 13th at 1:00pm. No sewing skills required, everyone is welcome!





Women's Group

Craft Sale

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

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





“AND SO THEY HAD NONE”

Thanks to everyone who attended our first-ever dinner theater on October 6. The cast enjoyed many nights rehearsing and put on a fun who-dunnit show. We are grateful to our hosts, the Women of OSLC and servers, who prepared a wonderful meal and expertly served nearly 70 guests in attendance. A good time was had by all.

Cast members: (back) Bruce & Sandy Abraham, Kim Kubat, Kyle Evenson, Jerry Stark & Diana Brown.

(front) Pat & Shelly Johnson, Lynda Hartwig, Cheri Salzer

A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God, We turn our hearts to you on this day for giving thanks, mindful of your many gifts.

For each one, we are grateful. For each one, we are blessed. For each one, we are opened to the abundance of your love.

May this Thanksgiving Day offer a reminder to be generous with others, as you are with us.

We praise you. We rejoice you. We give you thanks.

Amen.

Caramel Apple Cookies

From Angie Aronson

Ingredients:

2 ½ C flour	1 egg
2 Tbsp. ground cinnamon	2 tsp caramel extract (optional)
1 tsp baking soda	½ C Apple Juice
½ tsp salt	2 C butterscotch morsels
1 ⅓ C brown sugar	¾ C grated apple
½ C butter	¾ C chopped Walnuts (can be omitted)

Combine flour, cinnamon, baking soda, and salt. Beat brown sugar and butter in a large bowl until well-combined. Beat in egg and extract (if using).

Gradually add flour mixture alternating with apple juice. Stir in 1 ½ C of the butterscotch morsels, the grated apple and walnuts (if using).

Drop by rounded Tbsp. onto lightly greased cookie sheets. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes. Let stand for 2 minutes before moving to racks. When completely cooled top with glaze and remaining nuts.

Glaze: Melt remaining morsels and 2 Tbsp. butter in a small saucepan over low heat. Remove from heat and add 1 cup sifted powdered sugar and 1 to 1 ½ tbsp. apple juice. Stir until smooth and frost.

Confirmation Sunday

On Sunday, October 27th, as a congregation, we celebrated the milestone achievement of Confirmation. We've mentored, supported, prayer for, and encouraged these young people in their Christian faith.



Congratulations to the Affirmation Class of 2024:

- † Brynn Anderson—daughter of Dan Anderson & Holly Schiffler
- † Aaden Orbeck—son of Josh & Kelly Orbeck
- † Bryce Ramler—son of Eric & Darcy Ramler
- † Colton Rodenwald—son of Wade & Tiffany Rodenwald
- † Travis Wuolle—son of Art & Heather Wuolle

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Worship and Music Committee

The Worship and Music Committee met on September 23, 2024. Members include Mike Aronson, Denise Croatt, Lisa Beuning, Kevin Buening, Kaye Schmainda, Renee Stark, Ruth Fauk, and Pastor Anthony. The agenda covered a review of plans and responsibilities for upcoming worship experiences at Our Savior's. Notable dates include:

- † October 6 — Dinner theatre and need for microphones
- † Praise Team—October 13th and November 17th
- † Adult Choir—October 27th (Affirmation of Baptism) and November 24th
- † All Saints Sunday—November 3rd
- † Women's Thank Offering Sunday—November 10th
- † Thanksgiving Eve Worship—November 27th at 6:30pm followed by Potluck Dessert

In addition the committee is suggesting time changes for our Christmas Eve worship services based on historical trends in the pattern of attendance. Their recommendations will be reviewed by the Church Council and will require Council approval before changes can be made. Stay tuned!!

Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee has been working with Pastor Anthony via email to post, interview, and hire for two positions:

- † Director of Youth and Family Ministry
- † Custodian

We have multiple applicants for the custodian position and are hopeful this position will be filled soon.

We continue to pray about our need to find a candidate for the Youth and Family position, at this time we have not had any additional applicants.

Filled with Gratitude Intent Sunday

As we look towards 2025, you are invited to make a statement of intent. This statement names what your intent for generosity will be in the next year. The statement of intent cards will be mailed to you the week of November 11th. Then on Sunday, November 17th, we invite you to bring your completed intent card to worship. If you cannot join us for worship that day, you can complete the intent card online at www.oursaviorslutheranchurch.org/intent.

Thank you for considering how you can grow in generosity in the coming year.

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.



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

Baked Beans
Kleenex

Items can be dropped off in the box in the narthex at church or delivered directly to 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!

November Worship Volunteers

Lesson Reader

Audio/Visual

9am Sunday, Nov. 3rd

Bruce Abraham

Pat Johnson &
Matt Eggert

9am Sunday, Nov. 10th

Lisa Beuning &
Matthew Rafteseth

9am Sunday, Nov. 17th

Al Amdahl

Kevin Beuning
& Jerry Stark

9am Sunday, Nov. 24th

Sandy Paulsen

Matt Eggert &
Kevin Beuning

6:30pm Wed, Nov. 27th
Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Jolene Lobitz

Kevin Beuning &
Eric Ruch

Santa's Pioneer

Village Decorating

Sunday, November 3rd 11am

(weather permitting)

We will once again be decorating the Claim Shack at Santa's Pioneer Village, located at the Albany Pioneer Grounds. If you are interested in helping decorate or have any decorations we could use, please contact Lisa Beuning at 320-291-1114

Spreading God's Word on KASM Radio

Continuing to broadcast our morning worship service



has become something many look forward to on Sunday afternoons. But this ministry requires financial support.

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

Congregational Council

Michelle Polaski, President

Personnel

Michelle_boundy@yahoo.com

Kyle Evenson, Vice President

Cemetery

kyleev@atsinc.com

Kim Kubat, Secretary, Hospitality

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Lynda Hartwig, Treasurer

(bonded), Finance

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Michelle Evenson, Financial Secretary *(bonded)*

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Our Savior's Church Staff

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Administrative Assistant:

Angie Mosman

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oursaviors@albanytel.com

Custodian:

Bella Kedrowski

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday from 9am-1pm

**Newsletter deadline is
the 20th 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.*

Prayer
BOX

November 2024
Fruit of the Spirit: GOODNESS



“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

“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth).”

— Ephesians 5:8-9

“A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.”

— Matthew 12:35

“How I long for your precepts! In your righteousness preserve my life.”

— Psalm 119:40

“Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

— Psalm 23:6

“For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving.”

— 1 Timothy 4:4

My Precious Lord and Savior, keep our eyes open and hearts aware of all that you have done for us. Help us to be like the one leper Jesus healed, that turned back to Him for what he had done. Please protect us from becoming like the other lepers who forgot to be grateful. Help us to notice the goodness and be grateful for it. Your goodness is unfolding in the seen and unseen. In the big moments and also the mundane. In the convenient and inconvenient moments. We need only seek the Lord with eyes wide open to all you are doing. We pray to live always aware of the goodness of You.

In the Name of Jesus. Amen.

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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

GIFT every Wednesday beginning at 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

oursaviors@albanytel.com

www.OurSaviorsLutheranAlbany.org

Office: (320) 845-2405