



the Kindred Spirit

April
2025

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

**Lenten Worship with Soup & Sandwich
Wednesdays at Noon**

**Holy Week Worship Schedule
Details found inside**



**Sunday Morning Worship at 9AM
In-Person or Online**

**Broadcast on 1150AM KASM Radio
Sundays at 1PM**

April 2025

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
3/30 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15am Angela Mergen: Estonia Mission Trip Recap 10:15am Faith Explorers 10:15 First Communion Class 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	3/31 12pm Staff Meeting	1 7pm NA Meeting	2 12pm Lent Worship & Meal 1pm Women's Bible Study 5:15 GIFT—Meal, Worship & Activities 7:30pm Choir Practice	3 1pm Prayer Circle 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack 32	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5 2pm Private Event
6 Bishop Dee Pederson 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10am Visit with Bishop Dee 10:15am Faith Explorers 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	7 12pm Staff Meeting	8 7pm NA Meeting	9 12pm Lent Worship & Meal 1pm Quilting Squares 5:15 GIFT—Meal, Worship & Activities 7:30pm Choir Practice	10 9:30am Great River Conference PALS	11 OFFICE CLOSED	12 9am Building & Grounds Garage Cleaning
13 Palm Sunday 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10am First Communion Reception 10:15am Faith Explorers 1pm Worship on KASM Radio 2pm Church Reserved	14 12pm Staff Meeting 7pm Garden Club	15 9:30am Lady Generators Meeting 7pm NA Meeting	16 7:30pm Choir Practice	17 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack 32 6:30 Worship Service Maundy Thursday	18 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 Worship Service Good Friday	19 6:30 Easter Vigil
20 Easter Sunday 7am Worship Service 8am Easter Breakfast 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	21 OFFICE CLOSED 12pm Staff Meeting 6pm Congregational Council Meeting	22 7pm NA Meeting	23 5:15 GIFT Year End Celebration—Blacklight Adventures 7:30pm Choir Practice	24	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 <i>Alternate Day:</i> Building & Grounds Garage Cleaning
27 9am Worship Service— In-Person & Online 10:15am Faith Explorers 1pm Worship on KASM Radio	28 12pm Staff Meeting 6pm Worship & Music Meeting 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 206 7pm Building & Grounds	29 7pm NA Meeting	30 9am Garage Sale Set-Up 7:30pm Choir Practice	5/1 9am Garage Sale Set-up 1pm Prayer Circle 5pm Garage Sale Opens 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack 32	5/2 OFFICE CLOSED 8am Garage Sale	5/3 8am Garage Sale
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.

This year, celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter is quite late. April 20th to be exact. As we move into the Easter season in this year of being *FullFilled*, we focus on being *Filled with Life*. The warmer weather gets us thinking about new life. Seeing the garden plants and flowers return to the stores gets us thinking about new life. And this following of Jesus to the cross, the empty tomb gets us thinking about new life; for Jesus and even for us as well.

I invite you to set aside some time this April to join us in as many of the Holy Week events as you can. Each service is meaningful and powerful in different ways. And when we consider that all of these events that our Savior went through was done with you in mind, certainly gets us thinking that all of these services are about new life.

On Palm Sunday, April 13, come wave a palm branch in celebration of the Jesus, our king, who willingly enters Jerusalem for you.

On Maundy Thursday, April 17, come receive an individual absolution of your sins as the season of Lent concludes and the Great Three Days (the Triduum) begins.

On Good Friday, April 18, come hear the strength our Lord had in going to the cross for you.

On Holy Saturday, April 19, come witness the transformation from death to life, from darkness to light as we hold vigil for our Lord's Resurrection.

On Easter Sunday, April 20, come celebrate our Lord's victory over the grave and His resurrection to new life. Knowing that just as our Lord was raised, we too are promised new life.

In Christ,
Pastor Anthony

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday April 13th at 9:00am: Worship Service with Holy Communion (Facebook) & **1pm** Worship Broadcast on KASM Radio

Maundy Thursday April 17th at 6:30pm: Worship Service with Holy Communion (Facebook)

Good Friday April 18th at 6:30pm: Worship Service. Live streamed on Facebook and Broadcast on KASM Radio.

Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday April 19th at 6:30pm: Worship Service with Holy Communion

Resurrection Of Our Lord—Easter Sunday April 20th:

7am—Easter Sunrise Worship Service with Holy Communion (Facebook)

8am—Easter Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)

9am—Worship Service.

1pm Broadcast on KASM Radio



Lent Midday Services

There is a midday prayer service throughout the season of Lent on Wednesdays at noon (April 2nd, April 9th) These services will be followed by a soup and sandwich meal. Our midweek Lent schedule is:

Wednesdays in Lent

12:00pm—Worship

12:30pm—Soup & Sandwich Meal

5:15pm—GIFT Family Meal

6:00pm—GIFT Worship



The Bishop is Coming!

At the annual assembly in 2021 of our SWMN Synod, we elected Pastor Dee Pederson to be our next bishop. On Sunday, April 6th, Bishop Dee will join us for worship and proclaim God's Word to us. You are invited to stay after worship to meet and visit with Bishop Dee.

Men's Garage

Unfortunately, there will be NO MEN'S GARAGE in April as there is no one to host the evening. If you are interested in hosting a gathering of men in your garage or shop, talk to Pastor Anthony for more details.

Glass Wine Jugs

Could you use one gallon, glass wine jugs??? The church has empty communion wine jugs up for grabs before they are recycled. Please contact the church office to claim

Women's Bible Study— Ecclesiastes

Our Bible study on Ecclesiastes continues on the following Wednesdays at 1:00pm

- † April 2nd—Ecclesiastes 12
- † April 16th—NO Bible Study

Beginning in May, we will start studying Paul's letter to the Romans.



New Roof Opportunity— Let's Raise the Roof!!!

Our *Raise the Roof* campaign to replace our damaged roof is well underway! We have received just over \$27,000 toward our goal of \$50,000 since the beginning of the campaign. THANK YOU to all who have contributed to our new metal sake roof.



To complete this project, we have been blessed to be able to host a Dollar-for-Dollar Match. From March 23rd through Easter, Sunday April 20th, contributions to the roof project will be matched Dollar-for-Dollar up to \$9,000! We are close to funding this project. Every dollar counts. Give by selecting an envelope from the fundraising board in the lobby. Designate the amount you'd like to contribute, then return the sealed envelope into the roof of the little white church. Give by cash or check designated Roof Campaign. Or give online at our website under the Raise the Roof Campaign.

OSLC YOUTH & FAMILIES

End of the Year GIFT Event—Wednesday April 23

To celebrate the conclusion of another great year of GIFT, families are invited to Blacklight Adventures in St. Cloud for 90 minutes of family fun! There's laser tag, mini golf, an escape room, and pizza & pop. The cost for this event is covered by proceeds from our annual youth pizza fundraiser (note: this does not include the arcade).

Blacklight Adventures—240 33rd Ave. S, St. Cloud, MN

Wednesday, April 23rd

5:30-6:00 Meal—Pizza & Pop

6:00-7:30 Activities

Note: If carpooling, we'll leave Our Savior's at 5:00pm and return around 8:00pm.

If you and your family would like to participate, please RSVP by Sunday, April 20 on the church website.

Talk to Angie B, Mike, or Pastor Anthony with any questions you have.



Holy Communion Celebration

On Sunday, April 13th, during worship students will receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time. Join us to support and celebrate this faith milestone. There will be a light reception following worship.



OSLC Easter

Egg Hunt



Our Savior's Hospitality Team will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter morning at 8:25am following the 7:00am Worship. Bring the kids for some fun! Littles will find eggs in the Fireside Room while preschool and up will search downstairs. We hope to see you there!

2025 Vacation Bible School!! - August 3-7th

Let's get on the go with God!

At Road Trip VBS, students will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they are on the go with God. Through music, stories, games, and crafts, they will become travelers and discover how God is with them wherever they go.



Join us Sunday, August 3rd—Thursday, August 7th from 5:30pm-8:20pm. Each evening begins with a child-friendly meal.

Registration is open to the community for children age 3 (potty trained) to fifth grade (completed). Register now on the church website or by scanning the QR code with your phone camera.



This week takes many hands to be successful. Sign up to volunteer during registration or contact our office if interested in helping.

Save the Date – Summer Day Camp at OSLC

Luther Crest will be coming to lead a day camp this summer from June 23rd-26th. The day camp runs from 8:45am—3:00pm Monday through Thursday. Day camp is a Christ-centered experience, open to the community, for students that have completed Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. Day camp introduces students to Bible Camp experience without being away from home at night. The cost for the week of day camp has been reduced from \$130 to \$30 thanks to a generous donor. For additional information and to register, you can visit the church website or scan the included QR code.



April Worship Volunteers

Lesson Reader

Audio/Visual

9am Sunday, April 6th

Lisa Beuning

Eric Ruch &
Matthew Rafteseth

**Palm Sunday
9am Sunday, April 13th**

Sandy Paulsen, Jolene
Lobitz, Bruce Abraham,
Barb Fischer, Paul Fauk

Pat Johnson &
Kevin Beuning

**Maundy Thursday
6:30pm Thursday April 17th**

Al Amdahl

Kevin & Lisa
Beuning

**Good Friday
6:30pm Friday, April 18th**

Sandy Paulsen, Denise
Croatt, Bruce Abraham,
Barb Fischer, Lisa
Beuning, Deb Kurtz,
Pastor Anthony

Kevin Beuning &
Matthew Rafteseth

**Easter Vigil
6:30pm Saturday, April 19th**

Paul Fauk, Deb Kurtz,
Angie Aronson,
Alex Aronson

Eric Ruch &
Pat Johnson

Easter Sunday, April 20th

7am: Sandy Paulsen
9am: Nolan Eggert

7am: Kevin Beuning
& Pat Johnson
9am: Matt Eggert &
Matthew Rafteseth

9am Sunday, April 27th

Judy Evenson

Kevin Beuning
& Jerry Stark



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

**Fruit Snacks
Baby Wipes**

OSLC Garage Sale

Hard to believe it is already that time of year to begin preparing for the annual church garage sale. The dates



have been set for May 1st—3rd.

5/1 Thursday 5:00pm—7:00pm

5/2 Friday 8:00am—5:00pm

5/3 Saturday 8:00am—NOON

As you are doing spring cleaning, please consider donating to the Women's annual garage sale.

Please mark your household items but not clothing. You will be able to bring your items to the church starting the last week of April.

More information will follow as the date gets closer.

Thank you!!!

Family Camp for \$100

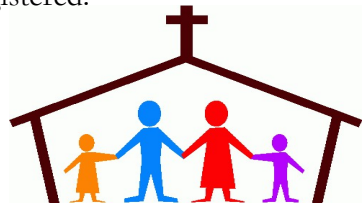
This summer, your family (parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren) can attend one of Luther Crest's family camps for only \$100! Typically, this week can cost up to \$800, but because of a generous donor, you and your family can spend a week on the beautiful shores of Lake Carlos in Alexandria for only \$100. The available weeks are:

† June 29—July 2 (half week)

† July 27—August 1

† August 3—8

Talk to Pastor Anthony for more information on how to get registered.



All Hands on Deck—OSLC Garage Clean-Out

The Building & Grounds Committee will be hosting a “Garage Cleaning” day on Saturday April 12th at 9am with April 26th as an alternate day if the weather creates a problem. We request if you or your group have items stored in the garage,

please come in to help with the cleaning. We need to get to the lawn mower for the volunteers to be able to cut the church lawn. Are there items that no longer need to be kept???? Can they be donated to the church garage sale???? Contact Angie at the church office to let us know if someone will be there to assist with this project. Thank you!



Prayer Box

April 2025
Eternal Life



“For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.”

— 1 Thessalonians 4:16

“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.”

— John 5:28-29

“Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.”

— Daniel 12:2

“Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on the glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.”

— Matthew 19:28-30

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

— John 3:16

Gracious and loving heavenly Father, I come to you in prayer knowing that my sin makes me now worthy. I know that I deserve death because of my sin, but that you offer forgiveness. I ask you to forgive me and to fill me with the Holy Spirit. I accept the gift of eternal life through Christ Jesus, who was sacrificed for my sin. Father, you gave me Jesus, and I'm so grateful for his work. I praise You for giving me eternal life in Jesus' name, Amen.

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: Shannon Cameron

GIFT Coordinator: Angie Burg

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

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