

*Our Savior's Lutheran Church*

# Salt Shaker

*July - August 2022*

## 'Tis the Season for Planning

Pastor JoHanna Buchholz

I write to you in the midst of what I am calling the season of “planning and paperwork.” School registration is open, the OSLC staff and councils have been meeting to plan for Fall activities, and I have ordered a new planner. (Yes, I still use a paper planner).

And as the calendar fills up, I feel both excited and anxious. Will people come to our Fall festival? Did we plan enough activities or too much? Will our plan achieve our mission or miss the mark? Basically, that saying, “If you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans” is ringing in my ears.

It is at these times that I am reminded of the wisdom in Proverbs 19:21: “The human mind may devise many plans, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will be established” (NRSVUE). Or, as it is interpreted in The Message, “We humans keep brainstorming options and plans, but God’s purpose prevails.”

I take comfort in the truth that God’s purpose does prevail, whether our plans succeed or fail.

God places a sense of purpose in our hearts, guides us as we make plans to meet that purpose, and rejoices with us when those plans are fulfilled.

God also embraces our plans that don’t pan out - a poorly attended event, a vacation thwarted by a family emergency, the untimely death of a loved one you had planned to grow old with - and uses them as an opportunity to proclaim God’s abiding love and extensive grace.

God’s plan to love us unconditionally will never fail.

Thanks be to God!

# A Pastoral Letter from Bishop Moon Leiseth

Dear people of Eastern North Dakota,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ!

I am writing to you, as people of Eastern North Dakota Synod, in response to recent events in a part of our synod.

A part of the body of Christ in our synod has been experiencing significant suffering in recent weeks. I am writing so that you may be aware and know my response. Specifically, I am writing regarding hate speech directed toward and about Park River Bible Camp, its executive director and board of directors, and LGBTQ+ people broadly. I write to speak a clear word condemning the hate speech and lifting up our ELCA welcome and affirmation for all who identify as LGBTQ+.

As background information, when the ELCA Youth Gathering was canceled, Park River Bible Camp stepped forward to offer a week of camp in the spirit of the Youth Gathering. Speakers were invited who represent a variety of voices that are often relegated to the margins but are important voices in God's kingdom. The invited speakers are people we should all be learning from, including our young people. The line-up for the week was faithful and bold. The line-up for the week was fitting in ELCA theology and was supported by the board of directors.

Concern was raised by some community members. This initially centered around one of the invited speakers, Pastor Drew Stever, an ELCA pastor who is openly transgender. Pastor Stever had a tweet from 3 years ago that was not what the camp would choose to represent but was his own thought from a number of years ago. Assumptions and extrapolations were made without finding out more information and the camp as well as Executive Director Rebecca Kjelland's leadership were called into question. Further, it was questioned as to whether a transgender man could speak at an ELCA Bible camp.

My response to this situation is multi-fold. First, I welcome the presence of Pastor Drew Stever in Eastern North Dakota so that we may be in Christian relationship together and learn from each other, especially as we learn from him. His message of God's boundless love through the lens of his life would have been a gift to us all. Unfortunately, because of the voices at play, Pastor Stever chose to not come to the camp week for safety reasons. I lament that anyone would be made to feel that unsafe in our synod. And I respect and support his choice.

*continued...*

# ***A Pastoral Letter from Bishop Moon Leiseth cont.***

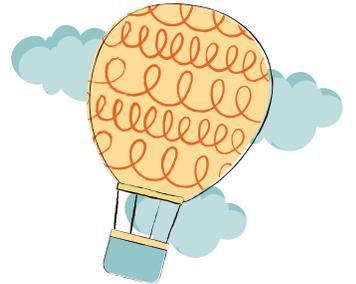
Second, the language and messages directed to Executive Director Rebecca Kjelland both publicly and privately are deeply concerning. One may disagree theologically or engage in conversation or debate on these matters, but we are called to do so in a spirit of community and respect. The hate and vile that was shared went beyond simply uncalled for or inappropriate. Hate speech of this nature is dangerous and should be of concern to us all. I am addressing this letter to the Eastern North Dakota Synod, but do not assume the most vile messages came from within the synod. However, as we are all connected and in community together, it is important to call attention to this situation and condemn this type of behavior.

Lastly, the validity, value, and inherent belovedness of each and every LGBTQ+ person is not of question. I am grateful to every person, community, faith expression, and organization in Eastern North Dakota and beyond who make this clear and work to make safety and welcome for LGBTQ+ people a given.

To the ELCA people of Eastern North Dakota, we have been on a long road with this matter. Church and society do change how they understand God, the Bible, and God's ongoing revelation to the world. I understand that you might still be sorting out these matters theologically. I look forward to ways we can engage in this together in the coming years as we all live and lean into the limitless love of God.

In confidence of God's love for us all,

Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth  
Bishop, Eastern North Dakota Synod





# Ministry & Office

## Communications

Scott Buchholz



Have you moved? Are you back from out-of-state? Have you changed your email address or phone number?

Please fill out a communication card available at OSLC, or call the office, to let us know. We can update the information in our system to make sure we are communicating effectively with you. As always, you can subscribe to our newsletters on our website.

## Bulletin/Broadcast Sponsors

Pastor JoHanna Buchholz

Do you know someone celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or other milestone? Consider celebrating them in the bulletin and/or our web broadcast. Call the office to book at date. An announcement will be placed in the bulletin and spoken aloud on the broadcast.

Each bulletin or on-line broadcast is \$50 and helps to offset the cost of making and printing the bulletins, as well as our live-streaming. Plus, it's a special way to lift up those we want to celebrate, honor, and remember!

## Thank You From The Neighborhood Church

Pastor Jessica Miller and TNC

Dear Pr. JoHanna & People of Our Savior's Lutheran, Thank you so very much for your warm welcome to join you in worship on July 10. How great to be with you & see a few familiar faces! And, thank you for lifting us up as your July mission of the month. Truly - your prayers & partnership make God's work here possible, and for your great care & generosity, we are so grateful! Many thanks! God's peace to you all!

## Staff

### Pastor

Rev. JoHanna Buchholz  
oslcpastor@gondtc.com

### Financial Manager

MarylN Miller  
oslcoffice@godndtc.com

### Communications Director

Scott Buchholz  
oslccommunicationsdirector@gmail.com

### Children, Youth, and Family

Ministry Coordinators  
Carrie Moen & Brandy Nordstrom  
oslccyfm@gondtc.com

### Custodian

Ed Jager

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### Address

612 14th Ave NE  
Devils Lake, ND 58301

### Office Telephone

701-662-5112

**Office hours** 9:00-Noon, M-F,  
or by appointment.

**Need for pastoral care, call the  
pastor's mobile,  
701-381-2569.**

### Website:

[www.oursaviorsdevilslake.org](http://www.oursaviorsdevilslake.org)

### Facebook:

Our Savior's Lutheran Church of  
Devils Lake, ND





# Ministry & Office

## Thank You!

OSLC Congregation

A heartfelt thanks to the many responses we got when we put out a plea for help fixing the lawn mower. Dustin Ebenstiner did the welding, and Matthew Hodges provided transportation for the mower. Thank you for getting the mower up and running again!

Our worship experience has been enhanced by the addition of the cushions along the communion railing. Our sincerest thanks goes to Dave & Joanne Heisler, Darwin & Joyce Peterson, and Rick & Jaque Senger for initiating this improvement, and to the anonymous seamstress who created the beautiful cushions.

## August Special Offering

Pastor JoHanna Buchholz

During the month of August, our special offering goes to Park River Bible Camp. One of our ELCA, Eastern North Dakota Synod camps, to support them in their camping and retreat ministry that "encourages a faith relationship with Jesus Christ through Bible study, worship, music, and fellowship"

Please make checks to "Our Savior's" with "Park River Bible Camp" in the memo line. Learn more about Park River Bible Camp by visiting their website: [www.parkriverbiblecamp.org](http://www.parkriverbiblecamp.org) or find them on Facebook.

## Church "Honey-Do" List

Call the church office for more information



Aerator for office sink, repair drywall in men's room stall, change light bulbs in the Sanctuary, replace cement cover for seepage tank, replace damaged ceiling tiles, repair cabinets in resource room, lots of dusting, & more...

## Ministry Team Council Relators

**Worship**  
Kari Kempel

**Faith Formation**  
Brooke Wayman

**Congregational Care**  
Char Burthold

**Hospitality**  
Sue Olson

**Outreach**  
Amber Lambrecht

**Stewardship**  
Rachel Lindstrom

**Property**  
Brett Narveson

MISSION OF THE MONTH  
PARK RIVER BIBLE CAMP





## Circle of Light

Where: OSLC, Berta Soper Study  
When: Wednesday, August 10th 4:00pm.



The Circle of Light is excited to announce we are resuming meetings and encouraging all current members, and those interested in joining, to attend.

We will be using the book Bible Overview by Rose Publishing. The books will be available for purchase at the meeting. The cost is \$17.



## Fall Festival

Pastor JoHanna Buchholz

August 28th we kick off a new season with our first Fall Fest! Gather up your family, friends, and neighbors, and come for food, Bingo, and bounce house, carnival games, and more!

The fun begins at 4:00pm. At 6:00pm, we will celebrate Holy Communion together and offer a back-to-school blessing for students, teachers, and administrators who have just begun a new school year.

Please note that there is no 10:00am worship service this day. You are encouraged to worship at the evening worship service.

Please consider donating items for BINGO prizes, and under \$1 items for the Fall Fest carnival games.



# Church Schedule

AUGUST

- 02 Tuesday**  
9:30am Quilters
- 07 Sunday**  
9:00am Fellowship/Coffee  
10:00am Worship Service
- 08 Monday - 12 Friday**  
Churchwide Assembly,  
Columbus, OH
- 09 Tuesday**  
9:30am Quilters
- 10 Wednesday**  
4:00pm Circle of Light
- 14 Sunday**  
9:00am Fellowship/Coffee  
10:00am Worship Service
- 16 Tuesday**  
9:30am Quilters  
5:30pm Church Council
- 21 Sunday**  
9:00am Fellowship/Coffee  
10:00am Worship Service  
with Communion
- 23 Tuesday**  
9:30am Quilters
- 28 Sunday (NO MORNING SERVICE)**  
4:00pm Fall Fest  
6:00pm Worship Service  
with Communion
- 30 Tuesday**  
9:30am Quilters

SEPTEMBER

- 07 Wednesday**  
3:45pm First Wednesday School  
5:00pm Dinner  
6:00pm Worship
- 11 Sunday (God's Work, Our Hands)**  
9:00am First Sunday School  
9:00am Fellowship  
10:00am Worship Service
- 14 Wednesday**  
3:45pm Wednesday School  
5:00pm Dinner  
6:00pm Worship

# Happenings @ OSLC



Amazonsmile

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-0349789>

Please consider setting up an Amazonsmile account and assigning OSLC as your charitable organization. A percentage of all your Amazon purchases will be given to OSLC.

## Vacation Bible School

Carrie Moen

Twenty Nine children from Our Savior's and St. Olaf participated in a fun, faith-filled VBS July 18-21 at Ruger Park. Will and Sam from Camp Metigoshe joined us to lead songs, games, prayers, activities, and Bible study on God's immeasurable love! We learned that God's love, God's creation, each of us, and each of our neighbors is too wonderful to be measured!



## Looking Ahead...

Church Office

Wednesday School starts September 7th. Sunday School starts September 11th. You can register you child(ren) for both at the Fall Festival!

"God's Work, Our Hands Sunday" is also September 11th - if you or someone you know could use a helping hand with things like yard clean-up, basic home projects, errands, or the like, please call the church office so we can arrange for a group to help on September 11th.

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**June 21st, 2022**

**OSLC Vision:** *"All Are Welcome. Connecting...People to God, People to People, and People to Mission"*

**OSLC Mission:** *We are a caring family of God's children, growing in faith, spreading His word, and doing his work in the community and beyond.*

**CALL TO ORDER** Pastor JoHanna called the meeting to order at 5:48 p.m.

**ATTENDING** Pastor JoHanna, Rachel Lindstrom, Maryln Miller, Amber Lambrecht, & Sue Olson.

**DEVOTION** Pastor JoHanna led us in an opening prayer.

**APPROVAL OF JUNE AGENDA** Rachel made motion, Sue Seconded. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES** Sue made motion, Rachel seconded. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Rachel covered the Balance sheet, Income and expenses for May 2022 with a Year-to-Date total amounts for income and expenses.

- Approval of check requests: Rachel made motion, Sue seconded. Motion carried

**APPROVAL OF BILLS** Amber made a motion to approve the bills for the month of May, Sue seconded. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Nothing to report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Pastor JoHanna on vacation July 5-10th , 2022.
- Todd had to put in about 14 hours mowing the back lot due to snow removal of the nursing home that tore up the ground. Rachel made a motion to pay him an hourly wage for anything above normal time spent mowing.

**WE SALUTE YOU** Carrie and Brandy for all your work put into the successful Devils Run breakfast!

**NEXT MEETING:** July 19th , 2022 @5:30 PM.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**MEETING ADJOURNED** Pastor JoHanna called the meeting adjourned at 6:04 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted by Amber Lambrecht, OSLC Council Secretary*

**DRAFT**

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes  
July 19th, 2022**

**OSLC Vision:** "All Are Welcome. Connecting...People to God, People to People, and People to Mission"

**OSLC Mission:** *We are a caring family of God's children, growing in faith, spreading His word, and doing his work in the community and beyond.*

**CALL TO ORDER** Kari called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

**ATTENDING** Pastor JoHanna, Amber Lambrecht, Sue Olson, Kari Kempel.

**DEVOTION** Pastor JoHanna led us in an opening prayer.

**APPROVAL OF JULY AGENDA** Amber made motion, Sue Seconded. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF JUNE MINUTES** Pastor JoHanna made motion, Kari seconded.  
Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** We covered the Balance sheet, Income and expenses for June 2022 with a Year-to-Date total amounts for income and expenses.

- Approval of check requests: Sue made motion, Kari seconded. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS** Amber made a motion to approve the bills for the month of June, Sue seconded. Motion carried.

**PASTORS REPORT** Pastor JoHanna has performed three baptisms in the past month. Had a great vacation. Will be gone August 3-15th , for a conference in Columbus, OH.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Update on Roof Project- Still waiting on bids. Can't be done this year. Hoping for a temporary fix to get thru till next year.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Christmas in July service on July 24th - outdoor service with potluck.
- We reviewed the Wedding Policies and updated some things, as Pastor JoHanna is rewriting them to be current.
- Currently in the works- Gather Together event- August 28 th . 4pm festivities and 6pm service. Kids activities, bingo, backpack blessing, etc. Invite our members "back to church" plus non-members.

**NEXT MEETING:** August 16th, 2022 @5:30 PM

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**MEETING ADJOURNED** Kari called the meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted by Amber Lambrecht, OSLC Council Secretary*