

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



612 14th Avenue NE Devils Lake, ND 58301 www.oursaviorsdevilslake.org 701 662 5112

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

IN A NUTSHELL

by Pastor JoHanna Buchholz

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



Sept. 12
2021

Sunday, September 12 is a day to come together and be intentional service. We will have a brief worship service, followed by opportunities to serve in the church and in our community, both on Sunday and throughout the week. If you or someone you know could use the help of many hands (yardwork, basic home projects, errands. etc.), please contact Pastor JoHanna so we can arrange for a crew to head your way!

The last Sunday in August, I shared a prayer in my sermon that has been life-giving for me. I can't take credit for coming up with the prayer (that goes to a free-spirited friend of mine), but I've been "trying it out" every so often, especially when my to-do list is longer than the day (which, really, is most days). The prayer is this: "Hello God! How can I love you and love my neighbor today?"

When Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was, he said that the law and prophets all hang on these two commandments: loving God and loving your neighbor (Matthew 22:40).

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In other words, this is God's commandments in a nutshell. And asking God to show me how to live out the "nutshell commandments" is both terrifying and clarifying - terrifying because who knows what opportunities to love might be sent my way? (And what if they weren't on my schedule?), and clarifying because what else do I really need to do, but love God and love my neighbor?

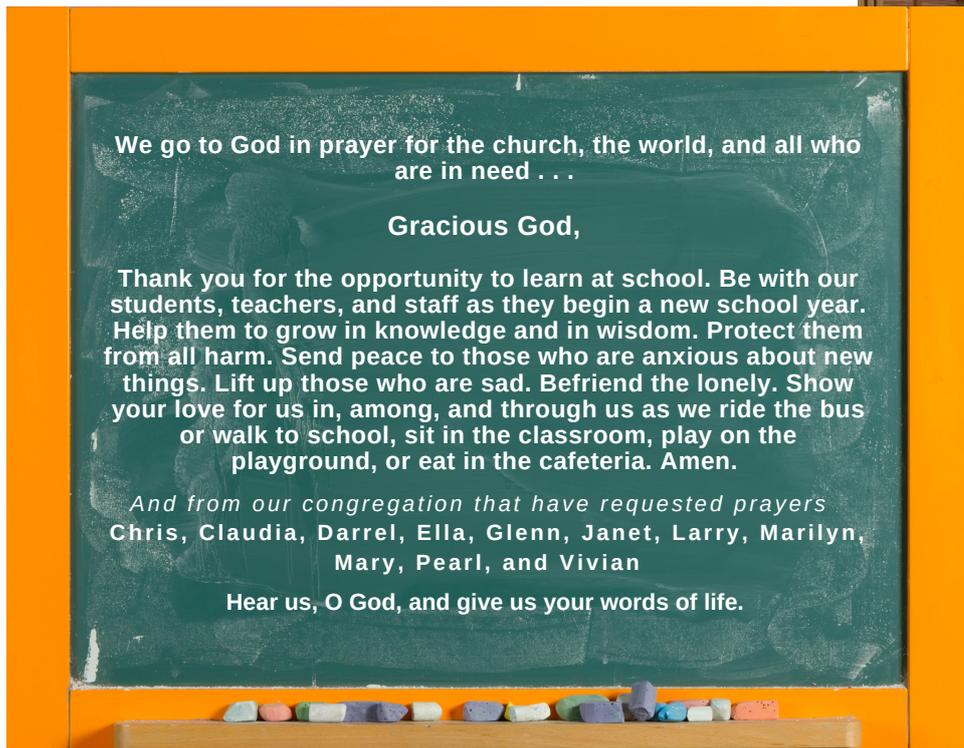
So as things begin to pick up this fall, as many of our ministry programs begin again, as we jump into busy school and sports schedules, as we partake in fall traditions, I invite you to pray this prayer with me. I invite you to trust that God is responding to your prayer. And I invite you to see what incredible, powerful, beautiful things can come out of a tiny nutshell.

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22...

Whether your kids were able to be at the Sunday service to receive the blessing or not, know that they are blessed, mind, body and school gear. We had 10 of our youth at worship to receive the blessing. There was also pancake and sausage breakfast served before the service.

On behalf of the Youth Ministries Team "THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS TOWARD FAITH FORMATION", this year.



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation classes begin Wednesday, **September 8** with a student and adult orientation. Confirmation at Our Savior's is an opportunity for 7th - 10th grade students (and 11th graders, this year only!) to dig deep in their faith, discover more about God's wide love, and mark a fuller participation in the life of the church.

[Register your 7th -11th grader online](#) or by calling the church office.

Confirmation classes are on Wednesdays, 6 - 8 pm and include worship, large group learning, serving, and fellowship events, as well as small group labs.

More information can be found on the [confirmation webpage](http://www.oursaviorsdevilslake.org) on www.oursaviorsdevilslake.org.

10th & 11th graders ready to be confirmed will meet with Pastor JoHanna for the first six weeks, and then take part in the Affirmation of Baptism on Reformation Sunday: October 31.

Contact Pastor JoHanna with any questions.



URGENT!

We need teachers for our Sunday and Wednesday elementary classes for grades 2,3, 4, 5, and 6.

Contact [Brandy](#) or [Carrie](#) to sign-up or request more information.

CHILDREN & YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

2021-22 OSLC Faith Formation Registration

*Please register before September 8th so that classes and leaders can be organized prior to the first day of FF. Go to - www.oursaviorsdevilslake.org
*There is a registration fee of \$10 per child. This money helps to cover the cost of supplies for the year. You can mail or drop your registration money off at the church office.

Directors Contact Information

Carrie Moen- 701 350 0170
carrieswinland@hotmail.com
Brandy Nordstrum- 701 351-7238
b_swinland@1021@yahoo.com

Sunday Schedule

8:45-9 - Drop Off/Snack
9-9:20 - Song
9:20-9:55 - Lesson
9:55 - Pickup

Wednesday Schedule

3:45-4 Drop Off/Snack
4-4:20 Song
4:20-5 Lesson
5 Pick up

September Faith Formation Calendar

19: Rally Sunday- 1st day of Sunday FF - Kindergarten Bible Presentations

22: Rally Wednesday- 1st day of Wednesday FF - Kindergarten Bible Presentations

26: Sunday FF

29: Wednesday FF

2021 Synod Assembly



Penny Rohrer, Lynsey Rohrer, and Pastor JoHanna gathered in Fargo with representatives from the 170 others congregations in the Eastern North Dakota Synod for the Synod Assembly August 14 & 15.

From Penny and Lynsey:

The 2021 Synod assembly had a diverse variety of speakers that were all very eye-opening. They not only had people talking about hard topics but also the importance of self-care. We took many Sacred Pause's where everyone at the assembly would both mentally and physically take a pause from the regular events at the Synod. We took this time to reflect on and create small art pieces that focused on the invitation to Live in Love. These small art pieces came together as one large cohesive display, similar to how we all came together for the assembly. Not only was it remarkable to see such a large gathering of people from all over the ELCA, but to see everyone join together to make positive change for the youth and people in need. This event has shown how much goes on behind the scenes to keep all of the churches running. If you are ever considering attending the Synod Assembly, we would highly encourage it!

Summary of Synod Assembly Business:

- The Assembly unanimously decided to individually increase Congregational Support to the Eastern North Dakota Synod by 3% in order to adequately support existing programs.
- The 2022 Compensation and Benefits guidelines were unanimously approved, with an amendment to the parental leave guideline to make parental leave for adoption equivalent to the guideline for a new birth.
- The Assembly voted unanimously to increase Synod support to Red Willow Bible Camp and Park River Bible Camp (both located within our Synod), and to encourage congregations to do the same.
- A Resolution passed for each congregation to support LIRS (Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) financially as much as possible.

The rostered leaders and the lay member delegates that you sent to the Synod Assembly also met together for our annual Spirit Lake Conference Gathering on Saturday, August 14. The following are some of the important items discussed:

- The Gathering voted to close the conference bank account and donate the remaining funds to the 3 area Bible Camps our conference churches use - Red Willow Bible Camp, Park River Bible Camp, and Metigoshe Ministries.
- We elected a new Conference President (Nicholas Rohde), Secretary (Nancy Rader), and 2022 Churchwide Assembly delegates (JoHanna & Scott Buchholz as primary, Lori and Curwin Pankratz as alternates). We nominated Pr. Lori Pankratz for a second term as a rostered leader delegate to the Synod Council.

Faith & Fellowship Teams Running Again

One of the things the Faith & Fellowship Team is responsible for is coordinating hosts and supplies for fellowship events.

All OSLC members are assigned to a monthly faith and fellowship group and can expect a call from the chairperson to schedule hosts and provide fellowship supplies like cups, juice, coffee, cookies, etc. for the following month.

Please locate your group in the 2020. If you are assigned to a month that does not work for you, please contact the church office to change the month you have been assigned to as soon as possible. Chairpersons for 2022 will be assigned and notified in January.

Also, please note that worship greeters, ushers, readers, and communion assistants used to volunteer by Faith and Fellowship Group. Our worship team is now curating lists of people who would like to serve in worship and will be responsible for ensuring we have volunteers for each of our services. We hope this move will open up the possibility of new people serving in worship, as well as make it more likely that people with gifts and a joy for leading in worship are the ones being asked to volunteer.

JULY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

IN PERSON		ONLINE
JULY 25	51	102
AUG. 1	48	98
AUG. 8	64	71
AUG. 15	41	122
AUG. 22	76	110
AUG. 29	68	44

OUR SAVIOR'S FINANCES

MONTHLY NEED:	\$17,580.58
JAN-AUG.	\$140,644.64

DONATIONS FOR AUGUST (REPORTING PERIOD- JULY25-AUGUST 31)

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 8,923.83
CHECKS/CASH	\$ 7,491.11
GIVEN WITH PURPOSE:	
Coffee	\$ 65.00
Parsonage	\$ 50.00
Building Funds	\$190.00
SIMPLY GIVING	\$ 2,850.00
TOTAL GIVING FOR MONTH	\$19,273.94

Responding to Disasters

Afghan Allies need food, housing assistance, clothing, and other basic needs. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) is ready to help. Give in support of Afghan refugees at www.lirs.org.

Lutheran Disaster Response continues to help people following a natural disaster, such as the recent earthquake in Haiti, wildfires in California, or the hurricane in the Gulf Coast. Donations may be made to LDR through www.elca.org.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes August 17th, 2021

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 President Char Burthold called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

ATTENDING Pastor JoHanna, Char Burthold, Rachel Lindstrom, Amber Lambrecht, Susan Olson, Linda Duerr, Carrie Moen, Devyn Halvorson via Zoom. Kari and Brad absent.

DEVOTION Pastor JoHanna read on focusing on God's steadfast love

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

APPROVAL OF JUNE/JULY MINUTES Rachel made motion, Amber seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT Rachel covered the Balance sheet, Income and expenses for June and July 2021 with a Year-to-Date total amounts for income and expenses.

APPROVAL OF BILLS Rachel made a motion to approve the bills for the months of August. Devyn seconded. Motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Pastor JoHanna has two couples in pre-marital, had 2 funerals (one in Cando, one son of member) four baptisms (Remi, Oliver, and siblings Addisyn and Odin), hospital and home visits in June and July.
- Synod Assembly- Pastor JoHanna, Penny and Lynsey Rohr attending the Synod Assembly. She reported increase in support of missions to 3% beginning 2/01/2022. Pastor JoHanna explained how we are part of the Spirit Lake Conference and they decided to disband and end the checkbook. It had a balance of \$500 and they decided to split the money between the local camps of Red Willow, Park River and Metigoshe.
 - Been planning fall worship for Wednesdays and confirmation

OLD BUSINESS

- New computer purchased for worship media- Simon used it last week.
- Check to Shepherd's Canyon Retreat- Pastor JoHanna discussed this retreat and how it is for Ministers experiencing burnout. They came to Devils Lake to put on a concert and we provided housing, food and gas, and offering money and will be sending a check for \$300. About 40 people in attendance of concert.

NEW BUSINESS

- Pictorial Directory- We decided to go with Universal Church Directory. They will come in (hopefully) 2 days in October before the snow birds leave, and 2 days in November close to Thanksgiving to get the kids home from college. Pastor JoHanna will be in contact with them to secure dates and Char is going to head up committee to get this rolling.
- Changes in Staff Roles- Molly Johnson will no longer be the financial secretary, as she has a new position at work. Linda has been counting the money and Marilyn Miller has been coming in for verification. Amber can be backup as well and works close to the church. Communication person- TABLE
 - Safety while in the building/building security-Doors are now locked while the church is "open," looking into security cameras, doorbell, a way to pop doors open without having to get up to open.
- COVID mitigation plans for fall- Lots of talk of how to prepare for the fall, if we have another outbreak, what can we do to be ready. The idea of a Covid Taskforce was talked about. Formed by doctors, nurses, parents, school board members, etc. who belong to the church? Char was going to reach out to some for a possible meeting next week? Sue will be on taskforce for the council.
 - Daycare contract- Discussion about reviewing/updating the daycare contract soon.
- Personnel Committee- Pastor JoHanna would really like to see a Personnel Committee formed at some point to help in the hiring processes when we need them. Possibly people who know the ins and outs of the church and the bylaws.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Outreach & Stewardship- Nothing to report

Worship-God's Work our Hands Sunday on Sept 12th- Pastor JoHanna will be gone to the Fall Theological Conference and would like to have a short message at church and then have the people go do projects inside or outside the church. We brainstormed ideas such as: installing cameras (if we have them), raking leaves for members, making cards for people, fill busy bags for the kids, go visit someone who can't make it to church, work on parsonage. Past things we had done- coloring, trivia, pay it forward \$10.

Communication/Care & Concern- Char will continue to send out cards for those on the prayer chain
Property- Pastor JoHanna's family returned home from vacation and they have a completed bathroom sink! Yay!

Faith & Fellowship- Sue will be working with the fellowship groups to begin implementing the monthly rotation.

Youth – Carrie went over fall plans for Wednesday and Sunday school. Still need teachers! Serving breakfast on Sunday before church.

IMPORTANT DATES

- August 22: Breakfast before church at 8:30am, Back to School Blessing
- Sept. 8- Worship on Wednesdays begins, Confirmation Orientation
- Sept. 12- God's Work, Our Hands Sunday
- Sept. 19- Rally Sunday with potluck
- Sept. 22- Rally Wednesday with potluck

WE SALUTE YOU Simon & Jared for working the power point each week, Miles and Carlee for being great readers, and Carrie and Brandy for all their work getting Faith Formation ready to go soon!

NEXT MEETING: September 21st @ 5:30pm

LORD'S PRAYER

MEETING ADJORNED Char Burthold called the meeting adjourned at 8:54pm

Respectfully Submitted by Amber Lambrecht, OSLC Council Secretary