



Pastor's Corner

God With Us—In Every Season

This July has been full—not just with activities, but with joy, connection, and the unmistakable presence of God.

We kicked things off with a wonderful youth picnic, planned and hosted by our youth team. There was food, laughter, and the kind of intergenerational fellowship that reminds us what church really is: a community. Watching our young people run, play, and sweat through the Iowa summer heat was a beautiful sight. Their energy was contagious, their joy genuine, and their presence a gift.

Then came Vacation Bible School, a vibrant week in partnership with Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. With the help of camp counselors from Camp Ewalu in Strawberry Point, Iowa, the campers came alive with songs, stories, crafts, and wonder. The counselors brought heart, humor, and love for God. The children showed up with open hearts and curious minds—and through their questions, their giggles, and even their sticky hands, we saw God at work.

And on July 27th, we gathered for *Christmas in July*—because the miracle of Emmanuel, *God with us*, doesn't wait for December. We read from Luke 11, where Jesus teaches the Lord's Prayer. And we remembered: God is not just "up there" or "long ago." God is with us. In every season. In every prayer. In every burst of laughter, every shared table, every quiet "amen."

Jesus gives us the Lord's Prayer not as a formula, but as an invitation. To trust. To ask. To draw near. And if children have taught us anything this summer, it's that God is nearer than we think.

There is hope. There is joy. And there is a future brimming with promise—because the God who came as a child still walks with us today.

Thanks be to God,
Pastor Bunny



Youth News:

Reminder! Sunday School is back!! We meet at 9 AM every Sunday in the large classroom downstairs! All ages are welcome, visitors too!!

Confirmation 2025-26

Our two-year confirmation journey kicks off soon—and we’re diving into Luther’s Small Catechism: the Lord’s Prayer, Apostles’ Creed, Ten Commandments, Communion, and Baptism. In the second semester, we’ll dig into the elements of worship and what it means to live as Lutherans who trust in God. Expect hands-on faith: onsite/offsite service projects, local outings, and a weekend retreat at Camp Ewalu in October!

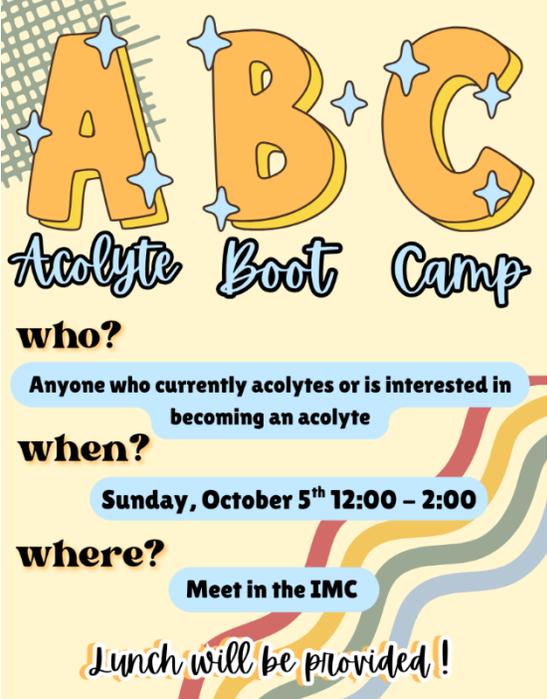
Info Meeting: Wednesday, September 10 at 6:00 PM in the **IMC (meeting room)**.

Who should come: all 7th–8th grade students **and** their adults (parents, grandparents, or other responsible adults).

Bring your questions (and your calendar)! Questions? Contact Pastor Bunny or Hannah.

Acolyte Bootcamp

Calling all acolytes! Whether you are already serving as an acolyte or want to learn; we will be hosting an “Acolyte Boot Camp” on Sunday, October 5th from 12:00-2:00! Anyone interested is welcome to join! This is a great opportunity for existing and new acolytes to get together to learn from and teach each other! Please sign up on the bulletin board. Lunch will be provided. See Hannah with questions!



The graphic features the letters 'A', 'B', and 'C' in a large, orange, 3D font with blue stars. Below them, the words 'Acolyte Boot Camp' are written in a blue, cursive font. The background is yellow with colorful wavy lines at the bottom.

who?
Anyone who currently acolytes or is interested in becoming an acolyte

when?
Sunday, October 5th 12:00 – 2:00

where?
Meet in the IMC

Lunch will be provided!

Phil and Andy's Pantry

In September, we will be collecting paper products.

This would be items like toilet tissue, paper towels, facial tissue, napkins, paper plates, cups and bowls.

Let’s see how full we can get the cart by the end of the months!

We appreciate all donations!



God's Work, Our Hands

September 7, 2025

OSLC will be supporting **Central Furniture Rescue**

Central Furniture Rescue efforts prevent tens of thousands of pounds of furniture from going to the local landfill every year. This furniture goes back into homes in our community where it gets a second chance at life.

Please join us for a potluck meal following 10:00 worship before a group of us head over to Central Furniture Rescue from 1 PM - 3 PM to volunteer! This will include some outdoor clean up and other indoor tasks!

Contact Hannah with questions!



Prayer Chain Gathering – September 14

Our Prayer Chain is one of the quiet but powerful ministries of our congregation. The faithful prayers you offer bring comfort, hope, and strength to so many. To celebrate this important work—and to connect with one another—you are invited to a Prayer Chain Social on Sunday, September 14, right after worship in the IMC.

We'll share some treats, a little fellowship, and a time to talk together about how we can continue to strengthen this ministry. In particular, we'll touch on the importance of confidentiality and privacy, so that our Prayer Chain remains a safe and trusted place for requests to be shared.

Please come and enjoy a relaxed, informal gathering. Your prayers matter, your presence matters, and your ministry matters. Let's celebrate and strengthen this calling together!

Holy Cross Day – September 14

Each year on September 14, the Church around the world celebrates *Holy Cross Day*. This festival dates back to the fourth century, when Christians began commemorating the discovery of what was believed to be the cross on which Jesus was crucified. Over the centuries, it became a day to give thanks for the triumph of the cross—not as a symbol of death and shame, but as the sign of God’s victory over sin and death.

The apostle Paul writes that “we proclaim Christ crucified... the power of God and the wisdom of God” (1 Corinthians 1:23–24). For followers of Jesus, the cross is not just a historical object—it’s the heart of our faith. Just as Moses lifted up a bronze serpent in the wilderness so that the Israelites might be healed, we “lift high the cross” as the sign that God brings life out of death.

Holy Cross Day reminds us that every time we make the sign of the cross, we are remembering our baptism—how we were joined to Christ’s death and resurrection. It’s a visible reminder that we belong to God, sealed by the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

In the liturgical calendar, this day stands out because it interrupts the long stretch of “ordinary time” with a focused celebration of what the cross means for us. It’s not about dwelling on suffering, but about rejoicing in what God has accomplished through it. The cross changes how we see God, ourselves, and the world: it’s the place where God’s love is most clearly revealed.

This year, as part of our worship on Holy Cross Day, we will serve communion at the rail—standing or kneeling—as a way of drawing near to the One who meets us at the table, arms open wide in welcome.

Assistant Minister Training

Have you ever wondered what it takes to serve as an Assistant Minister in worship? Now’s your chance to find out! We’ll be holding an **Assistant Minister Training** where you can come practice, learn the steps, and grow more comfortable in this important role.

Assistant Ministers help lead the congregation in worship by offering prayers, readings, and guiding parts of the liturgy. It’s a vital ministry of voice and presence—helping all of us focus on God’s Word and worship together.

Whether you’re brand-new or simply want a refresher, come join us. We’ll learn together, laugh a little, and share why this role matters for our church’s life of worship.

Bell Choir

Bell Choir practice will resume on Wednesday, September 10th at 5:30. OSC Bell Choir performs on the 4th Sunday of the month and is always accepting new members. If you have questions – feel free to reach out to Terri Hodge.

35th Annual Especially For You Race Against Breast Cancer!

Our Savior's has put together a team for the 35th Annual "Especially For You Race Against Breast Cancer"! We would love for some members of the congregation to join us! To sign up, go to <https://runsignup.com/Race/IA/CEDARRAPIDS/EspeciallyforYourRaceAgainstBreastCancer> and search



for our team - Our Savior's Lutheran Church. We need 12 people to sign up to get our logo on the t-shirt. Please sign up by September 9th! To allow Rachel, Natalie, Hannah, and other youth to participate, there will be no Sunday School on October 5th!

New Bible Study: The Beatitudes – Blessed in God’s Kingdom

This fall, we will explore one of the most beloved passages in all of Scripture: the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1–12). These opening words of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount are not rules or requirements, but blessings — promises that God’s kingdom is breaking into our world in surprising and life-giving ways.

Over the course of six weeks, we will discover together:

- The context of the Beatitudes in Jesus’ ministry.
- What it means to be “blessed” from God’s perspective, not the world’s.
- How God’s blessing is present in poverty, grief, humility, mercy, and even in times of hardship.
- How these blessings call us to trust God, care for one another, and see the world through Christ’s eyes.

This study is designed for all levels of biblical knowledge. No previous experience is necessary — just bring an open heart, a willingness to reflect, and your Bible. Each session will last about an hour and will include Scripture reading, teaching, discussion, and prayer.

Two groups will meet each week beginning in September:

- **Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.** starting **September 10**
- **Sundays at 9:00 a.m.** starting **September 14**

Come and join us as we listen to Jesus’ first word — blessing — and discover how that blessing shapes our lives today.

Choir Practice

Choir Practice will resume on Tuesday, September 2nd at 5:30 pm. We hope that an evening practice will be more convenient for anyone interested in joining choir. OSLC Choir sings during service on the 1st and 2nd Sunday of the month and has practice the Tuesday prior. If you are interested, please feel free to show up for practice and if you have any questions, reach out to Forrest Green.

Parking Lot News

In the near future, some comprehensive work is planned for the asphalt parking lots of Our Savior' Lutheran Church and the shared parking lots with Premier Investment, and Midwest One Bank – which means these lots will be closed (no parking) for a couple of days at a time. The concrete parking lot closest to the church (handicapped) and the driveway between the apartments will not be affected. A committee is working on plans for the days that the big parking area is closed (notifying groups that plan to use the church, Sunday service options if needed, etc.). Unfortunately, since this asphalt project work can only be done with favorable weather and forecasts, we cannot get specific dates on when the work will begin – but we will be given a short notice of potential start dates. Estimated timelines at this time are:

- Second half of September – Fill cracks and patch larger holes/dips
- Second half of October— Seal coating of parking lot and painting of lines

Both jobs will require us to stay off parking area for 36 – 48 hours.

2025 Financial Update

Contribution results for the week ending 8/24/2025:

General Giving:	\$3,254.80
Total Giving:	\$3,304.64

Weekly averages through 8/24/2025 (34 weeks):

Average Actual General Giving:	\$4,010.99 (\$136,373.63 YTD)
Average Actual General Expenses:	\$3,986.96 (\$135,556.74 YTD)

The averages reported above are the averages of “actual” general giving and general expenses, not the forecasts.

Serving Our Congregation

Bunny Dillard – Head Pastor

Sue Clapp – Congregation President

David Sampson – Treasurer

Therese Plummer – Office Manager

Hannah Plummer – Children & Youth
Ministries Director

Forrest Green – Music Director

Terri Hodge – Bell Choir Director

Readers

September 7 – Dave Sampson
September 14 – Eric Robinson
September 21 – Beth Anderson
September 28 – Nancy Trout

October 5 – Suzanne Schmitt
October 12 – Catherine Burroughs
October 19 – Rachel Sindelar
October 26 – Korver Sindelar

****Readers can pick up their reading in the
“Reader” mailbox located between the offices in
the back hallway**

Acolytes

September 7 – Korver Sindelar
September 14 – Evy Fiester
September 21 – Parker Zeien
September 28 – Eric Strottman

October 5 – Korver Sindelar
October 12 – Evy Fiester
October 19 – Parker Zeien
October 26 – Eric Strottman

Assisting Ministers

September 7 – Rachel Sindelar
September 14 – Natalie Fiester
September 21 – Karen Janney
September 28 – Sue Clapp

October 5 – Hannah Plummer
October 12 – Nancy Greer
October 19 – Rachel Sindelar
October 26 – Natalie Fiester

Ushers

Sept. 7 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson, Bob Sindelar
Sept. 14 – D. Sampson, M. Houg, T. Zuber
Sept. 21 – Strottman’s
Sept. 28 – Mark & Suzanne Schmitt,
Ann Larson, Beth Anderson

October 5 – Fiester’s
October 12 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson,
Bob Sindelar, Rachel Sindelar
October 19 – Strottman’s
October 26 – D. Sampson, M. Houg, T. Zuber

Prayer for Pastor

September 7 – Nancy Greer
September 14 – Derek Sindelar
September 21 – Laurene Case
September 28 – JoAnn Kohl

October 5 – Karen Janney
October 12 – Ardy Erickson
October 19 – Therese Plummer
October 26 – Diana Emig

Children’s Sermon

September 7 – Beth Anderson
September 14 – JoAnn Kohl
September 21 – Hannah Plummer
September 28 – Pastor Bunny

October 5 – Hannah Plummer
October 12 – Beth Anderson
October 19 – Hannah Plummer
October 26 – Pastor Bunny

Greeters

September 7 – Marv Gerjets

September 14 – Judy Shaff

September 21 – Marcia Adix

September 28 – Nancy Trout

October 5 – Marv Gerjets

October 12 – Catherine Burroughs

October 19 – Rachel Sindelar

October 26 – Korver Sindelar

Sunday School Teachers

September 7 – Hannah Plummer

September 14 – Rachel Sindelar

September 21 – Natalie Fiester

September 28 – Hannah Plummer

October 5 – Hannah Plummer

October 12 – Natalie Fiester

October 19 – Rachel Sindelar

October 26 – Natalie Fiester

Thank you Nancy for sharing your musical gifts with us!!



Paul is showing off his cowboy boots

Leslie is off to college!!

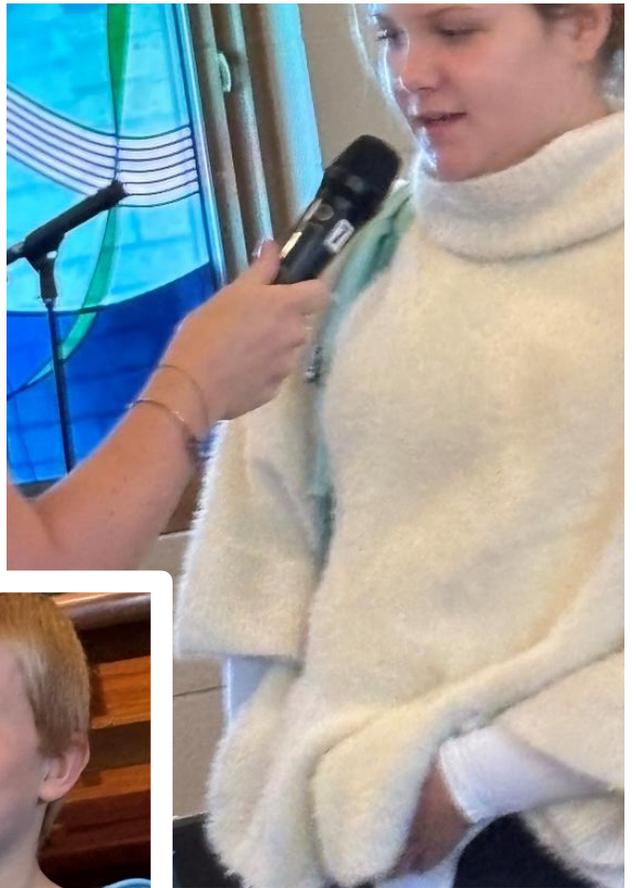


Marion Chamber Trio joined us for service



Backpack Blessing 8-24-25

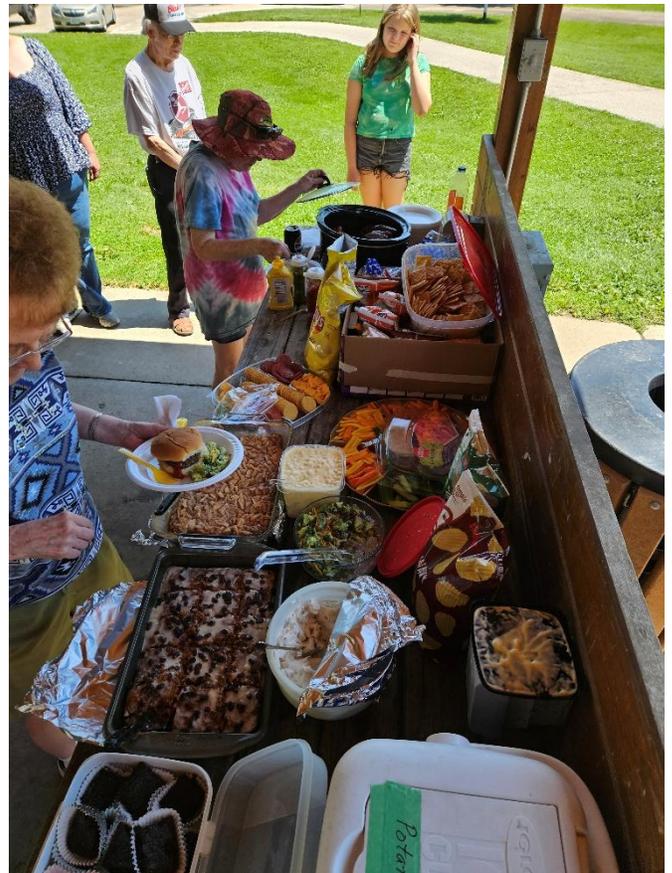




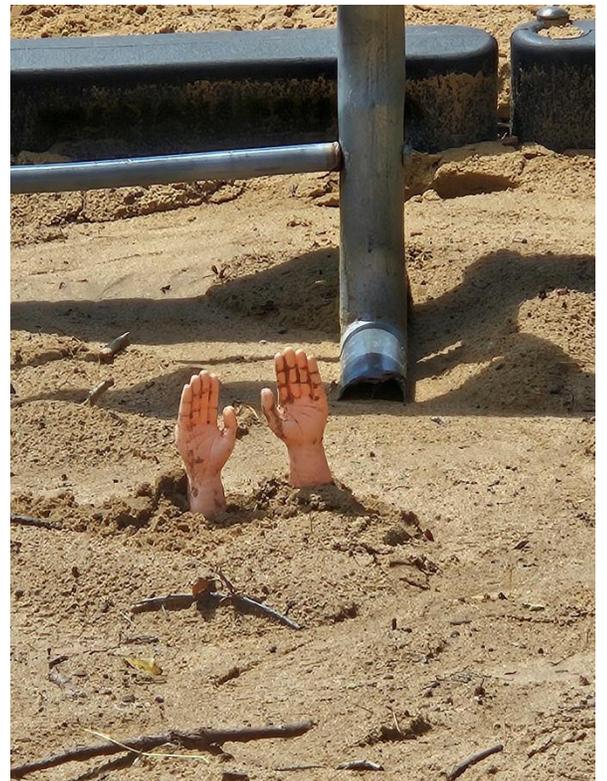
Picnic Photos at Thomas Park 7-19-25



Rich and Nancy Grier stopped by.







Who's missing a kid!?

Youth Led Service 8-31-25





Special Music by Ladies of Our Saviors



Sunday Sundae 8-31-25



