

Quarterly Ministry Update

Fall 2024

Prayer

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God.” (Philippians 4:6-7)

The Christian habit of prayer can be very difficult. There are many different reasons for this. It may be that we have not come to God in prayer in a while and so it feels awkward to pray. Or that we feel unworthy to come before God in prayer because of the sin and guilt we fear. Sometimes people struggle in their prayer life, because we have become too used to the noise of the world around us that the idea of being silent before God is uncomfortable. There are even times in life where we do not come to God in prayer because we do not know what we should pray about. These can be stumbling blocks for our prayer life.

Despite the struggle we may have in prayer life, every Christian would agree that prayer is important. So how do we overcome those struggles that get in the way of prayer? How do we move from being people who occasionally pray, to people who are in constant prayer? How do we as a church move from being a church that prays, to being a praying church?

This upcoming ministry year we are going to be addressing what prayer means for us as a church, and confronting those obstacles that get in the way of our prayer life, both as individuals and as a church. We will be teaching about prayer, preaching about prayer, and practicing prayer as a church. We will also be focusing in on prayer in some very specific ways including ...

Prayer Resources—Tools that will equip you for your personal prayer life and your family’s prayer life.

Prayer Walks—We will be walking through our neighborhoods, praying for the needs of our communities.

Prayer Services—

Sun, Sept 8—(ministries of the church);

Mon, Nov 4—(prayers for our nation and election)

Wed, Jan 15—(topic undecided)

Wed, May 14—(prayers for families of our community of faith)

Though the habit of Christian prayer is very difficult it is also vitally important for the life of the individual Christian and for the community of the Church. My prayer for this congregation is that over the next year we would grow in our prayer life, that the habit of prayer would become more comfortable and central to the life of who we are as a congregation, as we move from being a church that prays, to a praying church.

I invite you to join me along the way and pray that you will be blessed through it.

In Christ
Pastor Adam





Adult Bible Studies

Our Savior is blessed to offer Bible Studies throughout the week. As we all strive to grow and mature in faith as Christians, be encouraged to consider attending one or more of these options. Watch your Enews for more information.

Sunday, 9:30am Room B06—TBD led by Pastor Fred

Sunday, 9:30am Conference Room—parenting led by Pastor Adam

Monday, 3:30pm Conference Room—Prophecy of Scripture led by Sandy Blumenschein

Tuesday, 1:00pm Fellowship Hall—Ladies Bible Study: “Your Strong Suit” by Donna Snow led by Elaine Taggatz

Wednesday, 10:00am Zoom Study—TBD led by Pastor Fred

Friday, 6:15am Perkins in Chaska—The Gospel of Luke, Part 2 led by Pastor Holz (stay for breakfast)

Saturday, 8:00am (Monthly) Fellowship Hall — Men’s Breakfast Bible Study: 30 Virtues that Build a Man

Music Ministry

Our Savior has so many wonderfully talented people in our midst and one of those talents is music. If you possess such a talent, please consider participating in one or more of the groups below. Contact Fred Limmel - fred.limmel@oslcs.org if you are interested in learning more. We welcome new voices, ringers, and instrumentalists.

So join us as we make a beautiful sound to the Lord.

- ♫ Chimes meet Wednesday at 6:00pm in Room TBD, **beginning September 11**
- ♫ The Mixed Choir meets Wednesday at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary, **beginning September 11**
- ♫ The Praise Team rehearses on Thursdays at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary
- ♫ Instrumentalists/Vocalists—whether for the Praise Team or small ensembles of any kind, please let us know if you would like to participate.

Youth Events

Sun, Sept 8—Elevate and Woven Youth Group begins, Sundays at 6:30pm

Sun, Sept 15—Confirmation class for 5th-8th Gr begins, Sunday from 9:30-10:30am

Sun, Sept 15—9th-12th Gr Bible study begins Sunday from 9:30-10:30am

Sun, Sept 15—National Youth Gathering parents and youth meeting at 5:45pm

Confirmation and Sunday School

Beginning on **Sunday, September 15 at 9:30am**, we will begin our Sunday morning education time for all our students. This year, our 5th and 6th grade students are entering the confirmation programming to complete two years of Old and New Testament Bible lesson curriculum. In 7th and 8th grade they will spend time working through a Catechism curriculum.

If you have a student in **5th-8th grade**, please plan on attending the Parent Meeting for Confirmation on **Wednesday, September 11 at 6:00pm**.

In order to help assist all our students in learning and retention, we will also be doing the Old Testament/ New Testament Bible curriculum and Catechism curriculum for our Preschool-4th grade students. In preschool-2nd grade we will mirror the Bible lessons being taught in 5th and 6th grade in an age appropriate and interactive way. Our 3rd-4th grade students will be working on catechism lessons that mirror the 7th-8th grade curriculum by using the *Catechism for Kids* book and workbook on Sunday mornings.

All students in Preschool-6th grade will begin the morning, from 9:30-9:45am in the gym/community center for music, large group activity and interactive learning. After the opening, they will depart to classrooms for age appropriate instruction.

If you have a student in **Preschool-4th grade**, please plan on attending the Parent information meeting on **Sunday, September 15 at 9:45am**.

Mark your calendars for our Sunday School program to sing in church this school year: November 24, February 13 and April 13. Our Christmas program will be Wednesday, December 18.

GriefShare

A new 13 week session of **GriefShare** began on Sunday, August 25 from 1:00-3:00pm. It is not too late to join the group. GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life’s most difficult experiences. You don’t have to grieve alone. If you have questions, contact Lori Kroll or Lorraine Johnson. www.GriefShare.org



VBS Day Camp



Rally Day Prayer Service & Potluck

Sunday, September 8 beginning at 10:00am

Come together for a fall kick-off with worship and prayer.

The service will begin in the sanctuary and then we will travel throughout the building to pray for Our Savior's ministries using a prayer guide (for all ages).

While traveling, you have the option to collect supplies to make your own prayer beads (necklace, bracelet or keychain).

The service will conclude in the Community Center.

We hope you can stay for the potluck lunch.

Chicken and dessert will be provided.

Please bring a hot dish or side dish to share.

There will also be a bounce house and other activities.



Trunk or Treat

On Friday, October 25 from 5:30-7:00pm we will be hosting a Trunk or Treat family event! Mark your calendars and begin thinking about a fun trunk you'd like to host at the event.



Operation Christmas Child

Our VBS Students were busy and collected over 1000 items that will go inside Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. We will also need your help with purchasing items or making monetary donations to purchase items. We will be creating an Amazon wish list to make shopping/donating quick and easy.

We will be holding a shoebox packing event on **Wednesday, November 20 with supper at 5:30 followed by packing at 6:30pm.** Save the date and join us as we create these wonderful gifts for children throughout the world.

Did you know that the more drop off locations there are, the more shoeboxes Samaritan's Purse receives? For that reason, **Our Savior will once again be an official drop off location for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.** We will have drop off times for 2 or more hours every day from November 18-25. We will need your help.

- ★ We need people to greet and pray with those dropping off shoeboxes.
- ★ We will also need shoe box haulers and packers. All the shoeboxes we collect will need to be boxed up, loaded onto a trailer or truck and hauled to a warehouse in Plymouth, before they are delivered to Samaritan's Purse.

We are excited to serve our community and serve our God in this very tangible way with Samaritan's Purse and look forward to serving along side you.

Renae Hoernemann



Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Card Making Event

Everyone is invited to hear about future events, join in Christian devotion and fellowship and make greeting cards. Supplies and instruction help will be provided. You may discover a new hobby! We will gather in Our Savior Fellowship Hall, treats will be provided, and **please bring your mites!** Contact Pam Illies if you have questions. We look forward to spending time with you.





Prayer Ministry

As brothers and sisters in Christ, we are urged by St. Paul to be a people in prayer for each other and our nation. In 1 Timothy 2:1, St. Paul writes, *"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people."*

A Time for Prayer continues each **Thursday from 12:00-1:00pm**. Anyone is welcome to join us on Zoom as we specifically pray over the ministries of this church and its members. You can find the link on the Church Center calendar or you can email fred.Limmel@oslcs.org to get the link.

The Prayer Chain consists of many faithful prayer warriors who lift up concerns and praises to God. You are encouraged to email prayer requests to prayers@oslcs.org or fred.limmel@oslcs.org. If you want the requests to be included in the Sunday bulletin' prayers, please specifically request that.

Care Ministry

Care Ministry also includes offering meals: perhaps to parents when babies are born or for members following surgery or other challenging situations of life. We will be searching for individuals interested in preparing meals for such an occasion. In addition, the Care Ministry includes our Cradle Roll. Cradle Roll supports the congregational parents of newborns as well as children being baptized.

Care Ministry includes a very dedicated group of women who create beautiful quilts. You may often see an example of their hard work hanging in the Fellowship Hall. The money earned from the sale of their quilts assists them in the purchase of supplies. Many of the quilts created by our quilters are sent to a variety of missions throughout the United States and the world.

Pastor Fred

Summer VBS Day Camp

Our combined Summer VBS Day camp was a great success in July! We had over 170 preschool-6th grade students who spent the week with us. Our Camp Omega guides helped them learn fun camp songs, learn Bible verses, do crafts, play games and more! We had Bible lessons, STEM activities and enjoyed a week of friendship, fellowship and sharing God's love. A special thank you to all the volunteers who made the week possible!

Laura Kimber

Summer Movie Nights

This year we hosted two summer movie nights for our church and school families! Our June movie night was moved indoors due to extended daylight ... but, we still enjoyed the time of fellowship and freshly popped popcorn! Our second movie night in August, was a double feature with an indoor movie, followed by an outdoor movie. We had a great turnout for our first movie, with many school families joining us and a small gathering for the second movie. Everyone enjoyed popcorn and cotton candy!

Summer Youth Events

I'm thrilled to share some highlights from our recent camping trip, where we had a blend of spiritual growth, fellowship, and fun. In the Bible studies, we learned about three different Psalms (1, 10, and 46), and everyone had the chance to share and learn from one another. An enjoyable moment was the escape room, which tested our problem-solving skills and strengthened our teamwork.

This summer, we hosted both boys' and girls' Bible studies for our 6th-12th Gr youth and a well-attended young adult Bible study. Shannon and I were blessed to spend a week at Camp Omega, where we had the opportunity to connect with seven youth from Our Savior. The campfires were memorable moments of fellowship and reflection.

Joe Aurich



Our Savior School

The Early Childhood Center had full classrooms throughout the summer. Ahmi returned as a summer worker and several of our aids were able to work more over the summer.

The Extended Care program had 50 students over the summer. We needed to license another room to care of all these children! Alycia and Samantha continue to regularly staff Extended Care. Niki returned for a second summer and Matt joined the team as sub during the last school year, worked throughout the summer and will continue subbing for this coming school year.

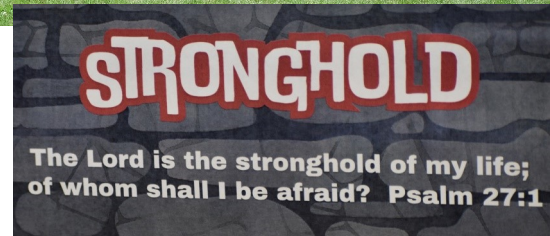
Now Hiring

1. **FT Toddler Teacher**—9:30-5:30pm (per Minnesota Department of Health requirements). \$15-\$22 depending on experience
2. **FT Infant Teacher**—9:30-5:30pm (per Minnesota Department of Health requirements). \$15-\$22 depending on experience
3. **PT or FT Preschool Aide**—Mornings or afternoons or all day

Contact Tami.Finney@oslcs.org

SMP Program

Pastor Fred has two more classes to complete before graduating from this pastoral formation program on January 10, 2025. The first course is titled "The Church". The course explores the grand narrative of the Gospel as it appears in the local church both as the means and the goal of the mission of God. The second course will begin in December and is titled "The Pastor as Leader and Theologian." This course will include a week-long intensive on the campus of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis the week of January 6th. Please continue to pray for Pastor Fred as he strives to complete his course work.





September	
1	Single 10:00am Holiday Worship Service
3	First Day of School at Our Savior School
7	Pickleball returns to Saturdays 8:00-11:00am (13+ with parent to adults)
8	Rally Day Prayer Service & Potluck 10:00am 6th-8th Gr Woven & 9th-12th Gr Elevate Youth Begins 6:30pm
9	The Messiah Bible Study Begins 3:30pm Cribbage 7:00pm
11	Zoom Bible Study Begins 10:00am Music Rehearsals Begin 6:00pm
12	Quilters 9:00am (Semi-monthly) A Time for Prayer 12:00pm (Weekly) Online Bible Study 9:00pm (Weekly)
13	Men's Bible Study at Perkins 6:15am (Weekly)
14	Card Making Event 10:00am
15	Sunday School, Confirmation and Youth Bible Study begins National Youth Gathering Meeting 5:45pm
17	Women's Bible Study Begins 1:00pm
19	American Heritage Girls begins 6:30pm
28	Men's Breakfast Bible Study 8:00am (Monthly)

October	
6	3rd Graders Receiving Bibles LWML Ministry Sunday
11-13	5th-8th Gr Confirmation Retreat at Camp Omega
12	LWML Fall Gathering at Zion in Hopkins 9:00am Sing Along with Joyful Song 10:00am
14	Cribbage 7:00pm
20	6th-12th Gr at Severs Fall Festival 12:30pm
25	Trunk or Treat & Supper 5:30-7:00pm
26	Men's Breakfast Bible Study 8:00am
27	Town Hall Meeting 9:30am

November	
2	Blood Drive 10:00-4:00pm
3	6th Grade First Communion 10:45am
4	Pray for our Country, Prayer Service 6:30pm
9	Sing Along at Shorewood Landing 10:00am Scrapbooking Event (Youth Fundraiser)
11	Cribbage 7:00pm
15	Women's Night Out
17	Classic Traditions Worship 8:15am, Fellowship 9:15am and Interactive Service 10:00am in Community Center
18-25	OCC Community Drop off Location at Our Savior
20	Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Event Supper at 5:30, Packing at 6:30pm
23	Men's Breakfast Bible Study 8:00am
24	Single Worship Service at 10:00am Pancake Breakfast to follow Congregational Meeting at 12:00pm GriefShare Surviving the Holidays 2:30pm
27	Thanksgiving Eve Worship 6:30pm
29	Christmas Decorating 9:00am

December	
1	9th-12th Gr Escape Room 6:00pm
4	Christmas Concert: Choir Cantata 6:30pm
TBD	God's Guys Christmas Fellowship
9	Cribbage 7:00pm
11	Christmas Hymn Sing 6:30pm
12	Christ Light Tour TBD
18	Early Childhood Center Christmas Program Our Savior Children's Christmas Program 6:30pm
21	Men's Breakfast Bible Study
22	Christmas Cookie Sale for Missions 6th-12th Gr Christmas Party
24	Christmas Eve Worship 3:00 & 5:00pm
25	Christmas Day Worship 10:00am
29	Single Holiday Worship Service 10:00am
30	Blood Drive 1:00-7:00pm