



September 2024 | Volume 29, Issue 9

MONTHLY Newsletter

A PUBLICATION OF **OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*The Mission of Our Savior:
That all may know Christ,
grow in Christ
and joyfully go with Christ.*

Adopted 11/1998

FROM OUR PASTOR...

August 22nd is my four-year ordination anniversary, and November 20th will mark my one-year anniversary at OSLC; time doesn't seem to slow down. At some point over the last month, I had time to reflect on the transitions that have taken place. I resigned from my duties as Regional Manager at Matheson Tri-Gas seven years ago, which closed a twenty-year career and elevated my seminary studies to full-time.

What brought me to this decision is a much larger story, but at the core of the story is God's invitation. I have often said that if God wants me to listen, God will speak through my closest confidant, Sara.

Seminary had been underway for two years. I was working full time traveling and trying my best to be everything else: husband, father, child, friend, and student. I have never been afraid of hard work; it was a work ethic instilled in us boys by our father, but what pushed me over was recognizing that I was working for the wrong kingdom and worshipping a false god.

I poured everything into my work, sacrificing my relationship (s) with my family and our church. I chased a career and money, thinking that if I just climbed the right ladder and achieved the right amount of success, I could check the box that I had succeeded in life. I am here as your pastor, so you may be able to guess there was a different outcome in my life, but it took someone telling me to see the other path that God had laid out for me.

Matthew 14:13 tells the story of the Feeding of the Five Thousand. After a long day of feeding, teaching, healing, and all things ministry-related, Jesus goes to the top of the mountain to pray. According to the story, the boat the disciples were in becomes detached and begins drifting out to sea.

Later that evening, Jesus finds their boat battered by the waves, and as he approaches the boat, he is labeled as a ghost.

Yes, he was walking on water, and who wouldn't be freaked out by someone or something floating on the top of the water walking toward you in the pitch black of night?

Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." Jesus said, "Come." As the story goes, Peter gets out of the boat and quickly realizes that the ground underneath his feet feels uncertain, so he panics and cries out to the Lord to save him. Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him.

This was the focus of my conversation with Sara; she told me it was time to get out of the boat. It was time to trust that God would place a path beneath my feet through Christ. It was time to stop worshipping false gods and to allow my life experiences and the Holy Spirit to guide my next steps.

I resigned the Friday before Labor Day—a little ironic, I know. I had no clue how we would afford our living expenses, let alone pay for the added school expenses and take care of our kids and their needs. Sara held me tightly and reassured me that God had brought us to this place and that God would see us through it.

(Continued on page 2)

HAPPENING IN SEPTEMBER!

- OWL'S BIBLE STUDY—SEPTEMBER 4
- RALLY DAY—SEPTEMBER 8
- ANNUAL GOLF OUTING—SEPTEMBER 8
- CONFIRMATION KICK-OFF—SEPTEMBER 11

SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS ON ALL OF THESE EVENTS!

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.OSLCWAYNE.ORG

(Continued from page 1)

In my four years as an ordained minister, I see God holding us tightly and seeing us through it. We are growing as a congregation; we are faithfully living our calling as disciples. We have married, buried, baptized, and welcomed new members. We are trying new things and trying new ministries; this is a vibrant expression of the congregation and our vitality. We are working to rebuild bridges and faithfully listen to how the Holy Spirit approaches us and encourages us to be the church.

Stepping on uncertain ground is scary, but I am confident Christ walks alongside us and grabs our hands when we cry out. Our mission as Jesus' disciples is to put one foot in front of the other and walk, trusting that the Holy Spirit is leading and guiding us where we will go next. No, I don't have a roadmap to tell us our final destination, but I have hope in you as my traveling companions.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chad



OWL'S BIBLE STUDY

Join us as we begin a study of **The Psalms, Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2024 at 10:30am.** (Note the change from Thursday mornings to Wednesday mornings.) We will gather the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

The Psalms are the first hymns and prayers of the church. They represent poems, prayers, and hymns sung by real people living with the challenges of real human life. They speak from the depths of the human heart, with its great joy and sadness, faithfulness, and sinfulness. The Psalms are people's cries to God, hoping that God is listening to their voices. They are also people's praise of God for all the grace and mercy God has showered upon them.

Why study the Psalms? Exploring the Bible with others opens us to God working in and through us. The book of Psalms expresses worship. It encourages us to praise God for who He is and what He has done. The Psalms illuminate the greatness of God and affirm his faithfulness to us in times of trouble. They teach us to pray and tell us much about the God we are praying to. They tell us of his tenderness, his power, his enduring love, his discipline, his holiness, his justice, his joy, and his kindness.

We hope you will consider participating in our Bible study. Since we will be ordering study guides, we need to know how many people plan to attend. Please call Mary Mohl (402-841-1009) or Kris in the church office (402-375-2899) to let us know your intent. You do not need to be an Older Wiser Lutheran to join us – just come no matter your age.



RALLY DAY

Rally Day—a time to celebrate the Christian Education ministry at Our Savior—will be held on **Sunday, September 8.** Three-year-olds will receive SPARK Story Bibles during the worship service and there will be a blessing for all the Sunday School volunteers.

Following worship, join us for a brunch in the social room. Everyone is welcome! Please contact the church office, if you have questions.



CONFIRMATION BEGINS

► **Wed, September 11—Confirmation Kick-Off / Meet & Greet / Information Meeting** for 6th, 7th & 8th grade students, parents and 8th grade mentors.

- **6th and 7th Graders and Parents** will meet in the church Social Room at **6pm** to discuss this year's confirmation program. Followed by Acolyte Training/Refresher
- **8th Graders, Parents, and Mentors** will meet in the church Social Room at **7pm** to discuss the Mentoring Program.

► **Wed, September 18—Confirmation Classes Begin**

- Classes for **6th and 7th graders** will begin on **September 18, at TBD.** **8th grade confirmands and their mentors** will begin meeting on Wednesday evenings beginning **September 18.**

MUSIC FOR SEPTEMBER

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Aug 31 & Sept 1 | Connie Webber, organist |
| Sept 7 & 8 | Connie Webber, organist |
| Sept 14 & 15 | Shelly Armstrong, pianist |
| Sept 21 & 22 | Connie Webber, organist |
| Sept 28 & 29 | Connie Webber, organist
Joyful Noise Handbells (Sun) |



PINK FLAMINGO NITE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024

5:30pm–9pm | Tickets \$12 (tickets on sale Sept. 9–Oct. 10)
Our Savior Lutheran Church | 5th & Main Street | Wayne NE
oslc@oslcwayne.org | 402.375.2899



- Vendors open for shopping, 5–9pm
 - Light Meal served from 5:30pm–6:45pm [Gluten Free and Nut Free Available]
 - Live Music
 - Raffle—crocheted afghan and queen-size quilt / 2 winners!
 - Cash Wine Bar by The Jug Store [a portion of sales donated to event proceeds]
 - Awareness Information by Providence Medical Center
 - Featured Speaker, Juli Burney, Motivational Humorist, 7pm
 - Photo Booth—share your pic(s) to our event page!
 - Door Prizes, games & more
 - Come as a TEAM—Invite friends, co-workers or family to join you...win a prize!
- Dress in **PINK** or a "team theme" for some extra fun!



Sponsored by Our Savior Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA, Providence Medical Center and PacNSave. Supporting Funds provided by Thrivent.



OSLC ANNUAL GOLF OUTING!

Come join us at the Wayne Country Club on **Sunday, September 8, at 4pm for OSLC's annual golf outing!**

Format is **Scramble**—4 person teams (come as a team or one will be made for you). Cost is \$15 for individuals or \$25 for couples; includes 9-hole greens fee, cart rental, prizes and meal.



Consider bringing a canned/boxed food or monetary donation; all items collected will be given to the Wayne Food Pantry!

Contact Darrell Miller at 402.369.2015 (call or text) or darrellmiller1218@gmail.com by Wednesday, September 4 to pre-register and/or set up teams.

Be Invitational—Bring Friends—All are Welcome!

2024 RADIO BROADCASTS

Consider sponsoring a radio broadcast. Radio broadcast of our Sunday morning worship service can be heard live on KCTY-The City 98.9 FM, 1590 AM and online at waynedailynews.com as well as the Wayne Radio app for iPhone or Android.

The remaining available dates for 2024 are September 8 & 15, November 10 and December 22. Please contact the church office (kris@oslcwayne.org or 402-375-2899) to reserve a date. **Thank you to all who support this ministry of the church!**

2024 PIES-4-YOU DATES

If you're planning ahead...mark your calendars now with the dates for Pies-4-You...**we're changing it up a bit this year.** We'll make the crust dough on Monday, November 11 and pies on Thursday, November 14 and Saturday, November 16!



GREETINGS!

Ladies, I can't believe how fast the time went at the "Saved to Serve" event I attended at First Lutheran Church and the Dana Village in Blair, NE on August 2, 3 & 4. There were 49 women signed up for this event and 45 attended.

First upon arrival on Friday was to unload your donations to the areas provided for kitchen, cleaning, bedroom, laundry, and bathroom supplies in the church social room and quilts on the church pew backs. There were 142 quilts and a room full of toilet tissue donated. Other early arrival activities were to meet new friends attending and to reconnect with old Saved To Serve buddies. Was great to meet some young ladies! We also could go to the basement and help make quilts, make gift jars of Soup, Pancake or Snack Mixes, all to be delivered to the Mickelsen Apartment dwellers. We later moved into the church sanctuary for a singalong, fun exercises and to hear Joel Stoltenow speak on the Lutheran Family Services and the beginnings of the Angel Share program which is now the Dana Village. After a short devotion, we carpoled to the Super 8 Motel for the night.

After breakfast on Saturday morning, I was assigned to the kitchen to help 4 ladies make our noon meal of chicken and tuna casseroles, clean and cut up fruits for salad and veggies for relish trays. We then transported them to Christ Lutheran Church on campus. Here we heard Stephanie Gardeman, Director of Transitional Living for LFS, explain her work with the youth exiting foster care. We were introduced to a boy and a girl, who are residing there. They each demonstrated making a dish for lunch that they like to prepare, which were served with what we had made. They joined us for lunch and then gave us a tour of the 3 styles of apartments (studio, 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom). They are lovely apartments. The young girl gave us a tour of her apartment, which she has decorated nicely with colored lights.

I returned to Christ Lutheran to clean up the lunch table and return the food to the First Lutheran kitchen. I went to the auditorium building on campus to assemble shelving for each of the storage rooms. This was one HOT job, because there was no A/C on in there. We laughed and worked together to complete the job as quickly as we could and returned to First Lutheran for a singalong and blessing of the quilts. The two youth were all smiles and thankful for getting to pick out two quilts (1 tied and 1 machine stitched). We were presented with a S.T.S. t-shirt with the verse (TEV) Hebrews 10:24 on the back to wear for supper that night and

(Continued on calendar insert)

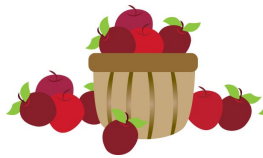
CIRCLE & MINISTRY GROUP MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

- Tuesday, September 3, 10am

JOY CIRCLE

- Wednesday, September 11, 2pm
Program: Greeting Card Assembly
Leader/Hostess: Dorothy Wert



CHARITY CIRCLE

- Wednesday, September 18, 7pm
Program: LWR Kits & Organizational Meeting
Leader: Dorothy Wert, Sue Olson, Lynette Lentz

VISITATION MINISTRY GROUP

- Wednesday, September 18, 1pm

QUILT MINISTRY GROUP

- Monday, September 23, 9am

All women of the congregation are always welcome and invited to participate.



ALTAR GUILD

Altar Guild workers for September: Sharon Fleer, Paula Gemelke, Cheryl Henschke, Madge Bruflat, Marsha Roth, Julie Grone, Janet Sievers, Mary Hansen, Dorothy Wert, Teri Koenig, Karen Zach, Lynette Lentz, Joan Baier, Cynthia Miller. Please check the worship assistant schedule for the date and time.



PASTORAL ACTS

† **Alice Elaine Koenig**, daughter of Cole & Katriona Koenig, was baptized on Sunday, August 11, 2024. Her sponsors are Alex & Shantelle Mendoza.



“YOU VISITED ME...”

The Visitation Ministry Group meets to sign and send cards to church members and to share a visit with friends. Please come and be a part of our Visitation Ministry Group. The group will meet on **Wednesday, September 18, at 1pm.**

For more information about this wonderful ministry, please contact Rhonda Blecke, Sandra Lutt or the church office.



WORSHIP SERVICES— at Wayne Countryview & Kinship

Worship with Communion is offered on the first Tuesday of the month—**September 3.**

- Wayne Countryview at 2pm
- Kinship at 3:30pm.

Worship is also offered the third Tuesday of the month at Kinship at 3:30pm.

- **Tuesday, September 17**

WACAM Worship Services

- **September 1**—Worship at Countryview, 1:30pm

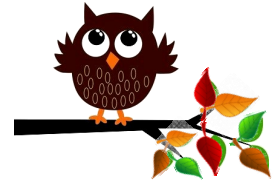


KINSHIP BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study at Kinship meets on the **2nd & 4th Thursdays, at 3:30pm.** This study led by Sharon Garvin uses Lectionary Bible readings and a resource from the ELCA entitled, *Daily Discipleship*. Join them on **Thursdays, September 12 & 26.** Everyone is welcome.

LARGE-PRINT DEVOTIONAL BOOKS

We noticed that we ran out of large-print copies of our daily devotional books *Christ In Our Home* very quickly at the beginning of this quarter. If you missed getting one and would like a large print edition in the future, please let the office know so that we can adjust our order to get more. **We will need to notify our supplier by the end of September for the Jan, Feb, Mar quarter.**



SAVE THE DATE:

OWL’S APPRECIATION LUNCH

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the **OWL’S Appreciation Meal** (Celebrating Our Savior Members 70+) which will be held on **Sunday, November 3 at 11:15am** in the Our Savior Social Room; entertainment will be provided.

SLEEPING MAT MINISTRY

Sleeping mats are made from plastic shopping bags. This is a great way to recycle all those plastic grocery bags! (A basket is available in the narthex to collect CLEAN bags.) There are several steps to preparing the bags before the mats can be crocheted...so there are opportunities for all to participate! Join us on **Thursday, September 5, and Monday, September 16, from 9–11am.**

Consider being a part of this wonderful ministry; both the VA in Omaha and Orphan Grain Train look forward to receiving the mats!



QUILT MINISTRY GROUP

Our Savior’s Quilt Ministry Group welcomes anyone who would like to help “tie” quilts. You don’t need to know how to sew or quilt; simply “tie” a knot!

Consider joining the Quilt Ministry Group as they tie quilts to be given to Lutheran World Relief and other organizations that need them. The group will meet on **Monday, September 23, at 9am.** Everyone is welcome!





- 1 Lavonne Smith, Karen Zach
- 3 Alvin Anderson, Kevin Koenig
- 6 Barb Heier
- 7 Dave Sievers
- 8 Madge Bruflat, Michelle Hammer
- 9 Kaiser Woehler
- 10 Kathy Burke, Pat Carnes, Barbara Lutt
- 11 Ryan Dunklau, Leroy Gathje
- 12 Jean Blomenkamp
- 13 Anna Bondhus, Helen Frahm, Brynlee Sokol
- 14 Curt Frye, Craigen Labenz
- 15 Jon Haase, Ron Krusemark
- 17 Jamie Beckman, Brandon Wacker
- 15 Danielle Olberding
- 19 Tracy Daniels, Evan Hansen, Brody Wacker
- 20 Lucas Olberding
- 21 Tate Hopkins, Carol McGuire, Tammy Meier
- 23 Saralou Danielson
- 24 Dave Baier, Tyler Frevert
- 26 Patty Wieland
- 28 Jaci Brunssen, Mason Wendte
- 30 Annie Kniesche



- 2 Dave & Sue Olson (52)
Chuck & Kathy Rutenbeck (52)
- 3 Tate & Michele Nelson (19)
- 4 Jim & Barbara Lutt (48)
- 7 Chad & Amber Labenz (22)
- 10 Dave & LeeAnn Westerhaus (32)
- 13 Aaron & Tracy Daniels (16)
Gene & Karen Hansen (55)
- 18 Robbie & Tanya Gamble (20)
Michael Nissen & Kathy Mohlfeld (25)
John & Jeanne Vezner (31)
- 20 Harold & Sharon Fleer (65)
Mark Hill & Karen Longe (21)
- 23 Eric & Katie Frye (19)
- 24 Kevin & Teri Koenig (30)
Daryl & Amy Mundil (8)
Alex & Jessica Wieland (13)
- 26 Cole & Katriona Koenig (4)
Lee & Sarah Larson (9)
- 28 Cody & Leslie Calhoun (5)
- 30 Jeff & Jessie Piper (24)

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please accept our apology and let the church office know.

YOU'RE INVITED... TO COFFEE with Council



Coffee with Council is an opportunity to meet with members of the church council for coffee, refreshments and discussion. Join them prior to worship, 9am, **Sunday morning, September 8.**

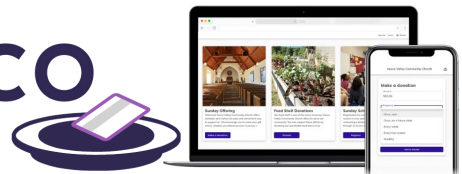
I GIVE ONLINE

We acknowledge the presence of God in all things, including digital footprints. Vanco has become a popular method for individuals and families to offer gifts and contributions to the church, which many prefer. However, it's essential to understand that giving through Vanco does not involve a physical envelope placed in the offering plate; instead, funds are automatically withdrawn from a specified bank account to a designated church account. There are various options available, so if you have any questions or need more information, please get in touch with the church office.

We have heard that having something to place in the offering plate is essential because you are participating in the greater offering being lifted to our Lord. In response to your feedback, the office has created "I Give Online" cards to be placed in the offering trays as they are passed during worship. Thank you for bringing this sensitive and vital point to our attention.

Warmest Blessings,
OSLC Office Staff

VANCO
FAITH



You can give electronically to OSLC—just download the Vanco Mobile app OR go to our website at <https://oslcwayne.org/give/>

GENERAL FUND FINANCIAL REPORT

	As of August 15, 2024	Year-to-Date
Beginning balance, 7/15/2024	\$39,145.04	\$26,252.03
Add: Income	27,916.58	261,861.23
Less: Expenses	-26,942.59	-247,994.23
Ending balance, 8/15/2024	\$40,119.03	\$40,119.03

If you have any questions about this report or other church finance matters, please contact Tom Hansen (402-518-0640) or Paula Gemelke (402-369-2176).

COUNCIL CORNER

—Monday, August 12, 2024 Meeting

- Director of Music, Connie Webber, shared that Joyful Noise handbell rehearsals will begin in September.
- Council heard that the All-Church Picnic hosted by Charity Circle on Wednesday, July 31, had a great turnout with approximately 60 people in attendance.
- Council received an update on the upcoming Confirmation and Sunday School year. Sunday School Rally Day will be September 8th. The start of Sunday School will be the following week on September 15th. There is talk about having the kids sing during church once a month. Confirmation classed will begin Wednesday, September 18th. The decision was made to hold Confirmation (Affirmation of Baptism) on Reformation Sunday next year (October 26, 2025).

The next meeting of the Church Council will be **Monday, September 9, 2024.**

DOLLAR DOOR OFFERING

—LFS Military & Veterans Services Programs

Each month our Dollar Door Offering (*offering plate in center of the Narthex*) goes to support the efforts of a different ministry. The **September** offering will go to Lutheran Family Services' Military and Veterans Services programs. (*for more information go to www.lfsneb.org*)

CALENDAR ITEMS

Reminder...please contact the church office regarding any meetings or gatherings scheduled; especially those held after office hours, so that they can be added to the master calendar. If no evening activities are listed, the church building is locked at approx. 5pm.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

For the Weekend Bulletin: by 11am each Thursday.

For the Monthly Newsletter: 20th of the month.

RESOURCES



- Wayne County Family Coalition (402-375-2200)
- Wayne Food Pantry & Backpack Program (402-375-2669 – fpcwayne.org/food-pantry) In order to use the Wayne Food Pantry, please call or email in advance if you need assistance. All inquiries are confidential.
- Wayne Food Truck – Saturday, September 28, at Journey Christian Church



This newsletter is published monthly as an update on the life and activities of

Our Savior Lutheran Church

421 N Pearl Street
(located at the corner of 5th & Main Street)
Wayne, Nebraska 68787
402/375-2899

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America***

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Website:

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Weekly Worship Opportunities:

Saturday Evening: 5:30pm

Sunday Morning: 10am

(streamed live and posted to our Facebook page: Our Savior Lutheran Church, Wayne NE (ELCA) and broadcast live on AM 1590 and FM 98.9)

Sunday School: (N-5th)

Sundays—10am; Fall/Winter/Spring

Confirmation: (6th-8th)

Wednesdays—6pm; Fall/Winter/Spring

- Staff -

Rev. Chad Rademacher
Pastor

Connie Webber
Director of Music

Bridget Vaith
Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministry

Virginia Kniesche
Coordinator of Children's Ministry

Kris Robinson
Administrative Assistant

- Church Council -

Kelly Grone *Interim President*

Larry Lueders *Vice President*

Paula Gemelke *Treasurer*

Jessica Wieland *Secretary*

Marion Arneson **Ron Carnes**

Kim Dunklau **Jim Hansen**

Mary Mohl

Our Savior Lutheran Church

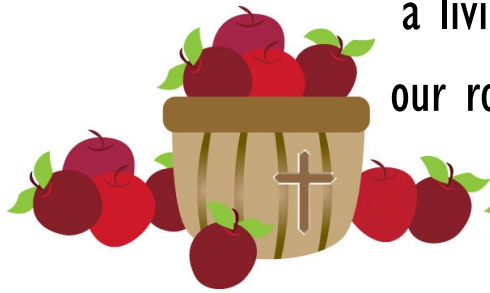
5th & Main Street | Wayne, Nebraska 68787
402/375-2899

Oh, praise the word of faith

that claims us as God's own,

a living temple built on Christ,

our rock and cornerstone:



We praise you, Christ!

Your cross has made us one!

Oh, Praise the Gracious Power
ELW #651, CCLI License No. 387571

SEPTEMBER 2024













Our Savior Lutheran Church
421 N. Pearl Street
Wayne NE 68787

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Giving Thanks For:

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Fellowship Hour 10:00am Worship 1:30pm Worship @ Countryview</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>Labor Day</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00am Cluster Text Study 10:00am WELCA Executive Board</p>  <p>2:00pm Communion @ Wayne Countryview 3:30pm Communion @ Kinship Pointe</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:30am OWL's Bible Study 7:00pm HB Youth</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00am Sleeping Mat Ministry 6:00pm Women Who Love to Talk-and Eat</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30pm Worship</p>
<p>8</p>  <p>RALLY Day</p> <p>9:00am Fellowship Hour 10:00am Worship</p>  <p>4:00pm Annual Golf Outing</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:30am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Fellowship Team Mtg 7:00pm Church Council</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00am Cluster Text Study</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:30am WACAM 2:00pm Joy Circle</p>  <p>6:00pm Confirmation Meet & Greet/Info Mtg (8th & 7th grade) 7:00pm Confirmation Meet & Greet/Info Mtg (8th grade)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>3:30pm Bible Study @ Kinship</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30pm Worship</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00am Fellowship Hour 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00am Sleeping Mat Ministry 10:30am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Christen Ed Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00am Cluster Text Study 3:30pm Worship @ Kinship Pointe</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>10:30am OWL's Bible Study 1:00pm Visitation Ministry Group TED Confirmation 7:00pm Charity Circle</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Newsletter DEADLINE</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30pm Worship</p>
<p>22</p>  <p>FALL</p> <p>9:00am Fellowship Hour 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship</p>  <p>1:00pm CPR/AED Training</p>	<p>23</p>  <p>9:00am Quilt Ministry Group 10:30am Staff Meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00am Cluster Text Study</p>	<p>25</p> <p>TED Confirmation</p>	<p>26</p> <p>3:30pm Bible Study @ Kinship</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>  <p>9:30am Wayne Food Truck @ Journey Christian Church</p>  <p>6:30pm Worship w/Noisy Offering</p>
<p>29</p>  <p>9:00am Fellowship Hour 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship w/Noisy Offering</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:30am Staff Meeting</p>					

PRAYER *Time*

BODY PRAYERS

Adding a physical component to our prayers can keep us more grounded and focused on our conversation with God. We are familiar with using our bodies during worship as we stand for specific hymns, prayers, and the reading of the Gospel. We use our bodies as we bow our heads, fold our hands, and close our eyes in prayer. We use our bodies during hymns when we clap our hands or move to the beat of the song. Pastors raise their arms when making offerings to God. Many congregations kneel for communion or use kneelers for prayer.

Traditionally standing during prayer has been used for praise and worship, while kneeling has been an act of confession and humility. Being seated is a posture used to seek guidance, wisdom, or peace. Having open hands during prayer is a gesture to receive from our Lord.

Our bodies are capable of expressing great love for God. When we use our whole body, along with our heart and mind in prayer, we increase the depth of our worship and improve our attentiveness to our prayer.

Here are some ways to use your body in Prayer:

SIX GESTURES OF MORNING PRAYER:

Taken from *Out of the Ordinary* by Joyce Rupp.

(Pray aloud the underlined sentences.)

1. Offering our Creator praise and gratitude:

Stretch your arms high and wide above your head.

I thank you, God of all, for the gift of another day of life.

Touch your fingertips to your forehead.

Open my mind to remember your presence.

Touch your fingertips to your mouth.

Open my mouth to speak your wisdom.

Touch your fingertips to your heart.

Open my heart to extend your love.

2. Intentionally being aware of my spiritual bond with all of creation:

Hold arms out from your sides, a little below shoulder height. Move to the left and to the right with your arms stretching outward toward the cosmos.

Open my whole being to you.

I reach out in compassion to my sisters and brothers throughout the universe.

3. Offering my life to God:

Stretch your arms out straight in front of you, slightly apart, palms up.

I give to you all I am and all I have.

Open my hands to serve you generously.

PRAYER *Time*

(continued)

4. Opening to accept what God offers me this day:

Pull your hands close together and cup them as a container.

I open my entire being to receive the gift that you have waiting for me in this new day.

5. Remembering to be kind to our planet Earth:

Bend over, reach down, and touch the floor.

I touch this planet, Earth, with awe, reverence, and gratitude, promising to care well for her today.

6. Awareness of the indwelling presence of God:

Stand with crossed hands over your heart, and bow forward.

May I be united with you throughout this day, aware of your love strengthening me and shining through me.

PRAYER WALK

1. Choose a time each day to take a walk by yourself.
2. Pick a path that will help you feel relaxed.
3. Invite God along on your walk and on the way talk with God, sharing your day, your joys, your concerns and anything that is on your heart.
4. As your walk continues, take time to listen. What is God using to speak to you? What is God saying to you?
5. When you finish your walk, thank God for your time together.
6. You may want to jot notes about your experience in a journal.

CHALICE PRAYER

By Kent Ira Groff

Hold your hands open: meditate on gifts they offer.

Fold your hands as in a gesture of prayer.

Gently lift them out of the line of sight,

Then open them to form a chalice,

The cup of your life.

Drink deeply of

Your cup:

Breathe in...out.

Bring the hands down

To form an X over your heart:

Christ entering anew to bless you:

Breathe in...out...release open hands,

So that you may be a blessing to the world.

(Continued from page 4)

on Sunday. We then carpoled to the Roadway Inn to shower and relax before supper.

Supper was on our own at the Blair Marina. We were given a choice ahead of time to order steak, chicken, pork chop or shrimp. I chose grilled shrimp, lettuce salad, baked potato and a roll, which was very good (as was said for the other meals). We then proceeded to Black Elk-Neihardt Park and the Veterans Memorial Park with a Master-Gardner, who explained the plantings of Native Grasses and Flowers for pollinators. We were given packets of seeds and encouraged to plant them. These are beautiful parks; do stop there if you're in the area. We returned to the motel for a good night's rest!

After Sunday breakfast at the motel, we headed to First Lutheran to pack up all the donated supplies and transported them to the separate storerooms in the auditorium. Stephanie and volunteers will arrange the items in each room. We returned to the church to finish cleaning up the social room so First Lutheran members could enjoy coffee and donuts after the traditional service. We attended the 10:30 contemporary service in a group. After church, we were served "leftovers" from our Saturday lunch meal or we could make a meat or cheese sandwich, served by ladies from the church.

For the finale we all gathered around a table and proceeded around the table signing our name to a cloth for each lady attending, to take home as a "keepsake". We then gathered in a circle, with our arms around the persons next to us on both sides, took a step inward to tighten the circle for a "Group Hug" to end our weekend.

There were more projects done by other attendees, like making quilts, tying and binding quilts, making placemats, making mini-quilts with a cross inside (which each attendee received) and planting mums and evergreens on campus.

Dorothy Wert,
WELCA President

P.S. Mark your calendar to attend Autumn Renewal on Saturday, October 12th and Pink Flamingo Nite on Thursday, October 17th.

