



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2021

Grace and peace to you, God's children,

The struggle which many of us, if not all, have been engaged in for the past few months is that of returning to what might be called, 'normalcy'. People are attempting to stride back into relationships with family and friends and just plain old living itself. After many months of separation, of being masked up and living with a certain fear one could not be blamed to looking for better days, days that are normal days filled with the freedom to step out and live. So many in society, some of our 'leaders' have set normalcy as the target.

It would be the Lord's hope that you don't settle for being normal and strive for normalcy. God has invested into you His very being in the form of His Son, Jesus Christ and in so doing has planted in you; light, forgiveness and life. God's word which rolls 'from the pen' of St. Paul calls this gift of Christ Jesus in you an extraordinary power. Actually this is how God puts it; "But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from

us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed" (2 Corinthians 4:7-9). It is the word "extraordinary" which anchors the text.

This "extraordinary" power comes from the outside not from inside you. It is not a foreign power but a power that comes from an intimate and loving God who has that power and has now breathed it deeply into you. If you look for that power inside of you with the eyes of faith you will certainly see it and you will know that it is in you but not from you. Without faith looking inside for any sort of power is only a fool's errand destined to deliver only despair and death. The power resident in you has been planted there for a purpose.

The purpose for God's gift of His power, breathed into broken clay jars is to move you. Resident in you is the power to overcome those things which the world in its brokenness spews into your life designed to bring death. God wants you know that this power is given so as to never be as-

saulted by sin, death and the power of the devil; the rulers of this kingdom. His power is that which will see you through such assaults be they spiritual, relational and even physical. The text previously quoted lists some, not all, of the assaults that will be thrown your way.

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These assaults include moments and times when you will be; afflicted, perplexed, persecuted, struck down and carrying death. But in each and every one of those moments and time that power will well up in you and flow out ensuring that the last word belongs to God who says that you will NOT be; crushed, driven to despair, forsaken or destroyed. It is because of this power and the strength that it gives you to live through those times and moments and NOT overcome that you are an extraordinary people.

So why then does the Church join with the world and search for a way, the way back to what the world calls “normalcy”? What’s normal for the world is not and never should be normal for God’s people. You are clay jars, cracked and broken yet brought back together and healed by the very life of Christ Jesus. The glue which holds you together is water and the word, bread and wine in which body and blood reside all brought to you by an extraordinary power given to you. This divinely given extraordinary power now makes you an extraordinary person. And you know what?

The Gospel needs you to live out this extraordinary power resident in you for Christ’s sake as He died in order that that power might be loosed in-

to you. Why is it important that you see yourself as an extraordinary person? So that your living might reflect this word from God; “For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.” (2 Corinthians 4:11-12)

You are extraordinary, as you have the life of Christ in you!

Pastor Mike

Discipleship, Just A Heavy Burden!

Wait just a minute. Dietrich Bonhoeffer writes in “The Cost of Discipleship”, “Those who follow Jesus’ commandment entirely, who let Jesus’ yoke rest on them without resistance, will find the burden they must bear to be light. In the gentle pressure of His yoke they will receive the strength to walk the right path without becoming weary. Where will the call to discipleship lead those who follow it? What decisions and painful separations will it entail? We must take this question to him who alone knows the answer. Only Jesus Christ, who bids us follow him, knows where the path will lead. But we know that it will be a path full of mercy beyond measure. Discipleship is joy.”

There is, I think, a common misconception, among both believers and unbelievers, that living our Christian faith, living our discipleship, is often just an obligation, a burden, something to be endured, rather than a thing to be celebrated. There are so many things that we *have* to do, it seems that there is no room for joy in our lives. We have to attend church every Sunday, we have to give money to the Church, we have to love our neighbors as ourselves, we have to pray for all kinds of people and about everything, we have

to feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty. We have to visit the sick and those in prison. At least that is what Jesus told us to do, no, in fact what He commanded us to do. And then there are all those things that we *can’t* do. We can’t get drunk or sleep with our neighbor’s wife, we can’t lie, murder, curse, steal, or use witchcraft. We can’t worship any other gods besides God. Ok, that last one is a little trickier than it seems at first glance. It’s easier to treat my job or my health or my iPhone as a “god” than I might think. Money is the easiest thing to idolize without even thinking about it. We are taught that it is the “love of money” that is idolatry, but I would suggest that money itself seems to take on a kind of a life of its own, its attraction is so great. So, some of those things are easier to deal with than others, but still there an awful lot of do’s and don’ts to keep track of.

Taking a closer look at the have to’s and don’t do’s, however, we can see that actually the have to’s are things that are good for us and our neighbor and that pretty much everyone should know to do them without being commanded to. The don’t do’s are those things that most of us would agree are not good for us or our neighbor and we should all know not to do them anyway.

In Matthew 11:28-30, we read, “Come to me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your soul. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

So, just what is Jesus’ commandment that we are to follow, just what is this burden that we are to bear? We read in John 15:12, “My command is this; Love each other as I have loved you.”

And then, in Psalm 25:4-5, “Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in Your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long.”

In closing, we pray for family, friends and all member of Your Church, that all might clearly hear Your call to discipleship, which is the call to Grace and Love, that we might follow Jesus’ commandment with joy in our daily lives. Lord Jesus, only you know where our paths may lead, but we trust that, even when we don’t know either the path or the destination, You are with us and You go before us, and we follow You with joy. Amen.

With Grace, Peace and Joy in our discipleship,
Hap

Worship Board

Now that we have returned to a more normal service routine we need to have more readers. Worship Board would appreciate your help by signing up to be a reader. It is not a difficult thing to do. Most of us are capable of reading and if we can get several people you will not need to read too often. Even just trying it once will give you a feel for how easy it is. There is a sign up sheet in the parish hall or contact Linda Whaley or Amy Mills. Please consider assisting with this.

Thank you from the
Worship Board



Will meet Wednesday, August 18th at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

All are invited to attend for a time of conversation and treats.

Felicia Duffy to furnish treats.



Back to School Month

School is right around the corner! This time of year can be exciting and stressful for many of us, but adjusting back into a classroom routine can be especially difficult for kids and teens with emotional or behavioral disorders.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) provides mental and behavioral health services for children and families across the state. Our therapists provide virtual and in-person therapy sessions with children, while our Behavioral Health Intervention Services (BHIS) team collaborates with families in their home or in a community setting to help them develop skills like anger management and healthy decision making. LSI also provides 24-hour mental health care at the Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers in Waverly and Ames to empower Iowa children and teens.

We thank you for your support of LSI's mission as we respond together to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service! We know there are more Iowa children in need of this critical care. If you would like to learn more about how you can give a gift to support these crucial services, please

contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

Helping Families Adjust to a New Normal

Uriyah felt overwhelmed by anxiety.

During the pandemic, it was hard for him to even leave his room, talk to his family, and attend school. When classes moved online, he felt comfortable completing his homework and attending classes virtually. But when it was time to return to school for in-person classes, he would not attend. His mom, Holly, wanted him to be able to finish the school year virtually, but she needed help navigating the transition with his school.

That's when she learned about LSI's STEP IN community program. Through the service,

LSI social workers are there to build on a family's strengths and ensure children and parents have what they need to thrive and create a brighter future. Children and teens in the program work with their LSI team to develop coping skills, conflict resolution, and healthy communication. The LSI team helped Uriyah feel more comfortable engaging with his family, and Holly had the support she needed to work with the school, advocate for her child, and ensure Uriyah could finish the school year online.

Now, Uriyah has felt a weight lifted off his shoulders, and he successfully graduated out of LSI programming. The last year has created unprecedented stress and anxiety for many children and teens, but Uriyah now feels more comfortable and confident moving forward.

Third Quarter Giving Jug

FREEDOM FOR YOUTH is the recipient for the 3rd Quarter Giving Jug monies. Freedom for Youth Ministries has two primary objectives: 1) to share the gospel of Jesus Christ as the true source of transformation, and 2) to love all of the youth we serve as Jesus loved us. One program that helps do this is the Freedom Construction Services. This program lets participants explore different trades and getting hands-on-experience from experts. This helps the ministry focus on developmental aspects of growth which produces dignity, courage, and self-confidence. Pastor Mike has met with the local leadership and thinks they are pretty solid people. Besides the financial help, volunteers and construction projects are needed. A letter from the organization will be posted on the church bulletin board with more details on the organization and with more information how you personally can help.

Service & Mission



The Emergency Food Box is currently in need of the following food items: cereals, canned fruits, canned vegetables, canned soups, cheese. Please no glass containers. (Please check the expiration dates to make sure the food items are not outdated.)

Food items or monetary (check/cash) donations may be brought to the EFB (109 S. 3rd St.) Monday through Thursday afternoon, 1:30-4:30. Please make checks payable to: *Emergency Food Box*. Our mailing address is: *EFB, P.O. Box 391, Marshalltown, IA 50158*. Donated funds are used to buy food items from the Food Bank of Iowa and locally.

We are always looking for Food Box volunteers. We have many different types of opportunities that are available, and we are very flexible in arranging times to fit your schedule! Contact: Cindy Staron, (641) 752-4868.

THE WEATHER IS CHANGING NEW ITEMS NEEDED

**Caring Center
132 W. Main St.
Mon. & Wed. 10-1**

We need:

Men's tennis shoes size 9, 10, 11
Men's jeans size 30, 32, 40, 42
Misses jeans size 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

No household items at this time, except curtains, they are full.

Donna Patton

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS!

Charlene Barth	08/02
Ken Lindblom	08/11
Ken Rasmussen	08/11
Bev Slocum	08/12
Ella Harthun	08/14
Gary Gifford	08/15
Dan Kersbergen	08/17
Brittany Reinberg	08/17
Joe Gregor	08/20
Shirlee Fuhr	08/20
Carl Scafferi	08/22
Suzanne Gould	08/23
Denise Case	08/27
Pat Smith	08/30

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES!

Richard & Libby Russell	08/02
Joel & Kim Gummert	08/04
Dennis & Lois Eige	08/05
Eli & Katie Zoske	08/05
Larry & Nancy Park	08/12
Michael & Nancy Sills	08/14
Steve & DeLee Freiberg	08/15
Hugh & Shirlee Fuhr	08/20
Aarik & Carolyn Dahlen	08/23
David & Alyson Hicks	08/28
Kim & Lori Ruddick	08/31
Dan & Abby Kersbergen	08/31

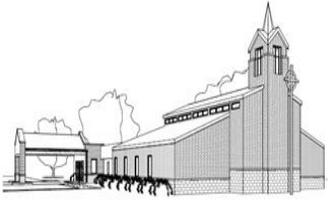
AUGUST 2021



Our Savior Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet
as of 06/30/2021

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
Assets		
1000	Checking	\$43,020.35
1005	Debit Card Account	\$523.69
1007	Thrivent Fixed Settlement Option	\$18,598.59
1010	Fern Thompson Scholarship	\$51,335.04
Total Assets		\$113,477.67
Liabilities		
2600	Federal Withholding Taxes Payable	\$373.00
2602	State Withholding Taxes Payable	\$111.02
2604	Social Security Withholding	\$390.38
2606	Medicare Withholding	\$91.23
Total Liabilities		\$965.63
Equity		
3000	General Fund - Fund Balance	\$-2,681.07
3100	Building Fund - Fund Balance	\$18,282.07
3101	Ice Cream Social Fund Balance	\$1,496.56
3102	Fellowship Fund Balance	\$836.58
3103	Memorial Fund Balance	\$14,423.34
3104	Bible Fund Balance	\$100.00
3105	Thrivent Choice Dollars Fund Balance	\$8,450.54
3108	Riverside Scholarship Fund Balance	\$221.75
3109	Alter Flowers Fund Balance	\$779.39
3110	Miscellaneous / Clearing Fund Balance	\$36.25
3111	Fern Thompson Scholarship Fund Balance	\$51,335.04
3112	Bonnie Riemenschneider Fund Balance	\$18,598.59
3114	Quarter 2 Giving Jug Fund Balance	\$483.00
3118	Lawnmower Replacement Fund Balance	\$150.00
Total Equity		\$112,512.04
Total Liabilities + Total Equity		\$113,477.67

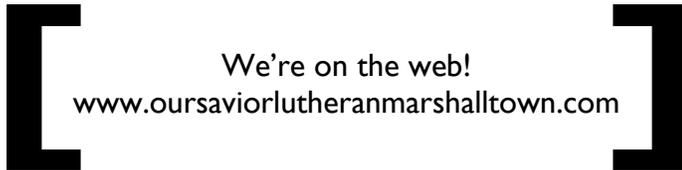
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Worship	2 6:00 pm Outreach Board	3 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 3:00 pm Service & Mission	4 4:00 pm Worship Board Meeting 5:15 pm Adult Study	5 12:00 pm Optimist	6 Church Office Closed	7
8 9:00 am Worship	9	10 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Executive Meeting	11 5:15 pm Adult Study	12 12:00 pm Pastor's Colleague Group 6:30 pm Book Worms	13 Church Office Closed	14 11:30 am—2:30 pm Donna Patton Fellowship Hall
15 9:00 am Worship	16	17 8:30 am Men's Bible Study	18 9:30 am Wednesday Wonders 5:15 pm Adult Study Newsletter Articles Due	19 12:00 pm Optimist	20 Church Office Closed	21
22 9:00 am Worship	23	24	25 5:15 pm Adult Study	26	27 Church Office Closed	28
29 9:00 am Worship	30	31 8:30 am Men's Bible Study	<i>August 2021</i>			



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Michael Herschberger
3001 South Sixth Street
Marshalltown, IA. 50158
Phone: 641-753-4108
Email: oslpastor@outlook.com

Address Service Requested



We're on the web!
www.oursaviorlutheranmarshalltown.com

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 AM Worship

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Secretary: Carol Fuller
Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Office: 753-4108

Email:
oslmtown@outlook.com



2021