SEPTEMBER 2022

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 4102 N. BEN JORDAN, VICTORIA, TX 77901 PHONE (361) 575-4305 FAX (361) 575-8679



www.oslcvictoria.com

Sunday worship 8:00 & 10:30 am Pastor Lalahery "La" Andriamihaja Children/Youth Sunday School 9:15 am

Adult Sunday School 9:15 am

Saints: YOU!



Thank you for asking.

To All the Saints of Our Saviour's,

Last month, several of you took the time to stop and ask me as to what and how we're doing in growing our beloved congregation. Others asked about how we're doing in reaching our goal of worshipping 250 people that I set for us back in January of 2021. I

sincerely thank those who've asked the questions, as well as those who've thought about asking, but haven't. These are very appropriate questions to consider as we enter the fall season. So, here are my answers, with the hopes that you'd all be inspired and empowered for what lies ahead for us at OSLC.

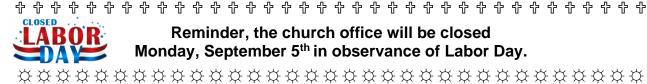
Yes, it's true that I had hoped that our worship services will regularly be attended by 250 people or more by the end of 2021. Unfortunately, the current health issues related to Covid19 still plagued us and the world over. So, we carried the same goal into the new year, 2022, with the focus and intentionality on our need to first do "in-reach" – reaching out and re-engaging all our members whom we've been missing from our midst. As a result, we've had several individuals and families come back to church and are doing ministries with us. Praise be to God!

So, for the remainder of this year, I encourage us all to keep on doing our "in-reach" efforts. I'm told that there are still many members of our congregation who are still "on the fence" about coming back and re-engage in our worship and ministries. However, with faith in the Holy Spirit that's working in and through each of you, continue to call on, to connect with, and to invite them to return and worship once again among us.

Regarding "out-reach", this will be our focus in 2023. Why wait until then? Because we need to have a solid and broader base of Christian members to receive, to welcome, to nurture, and to love and care for those whom the Holy Spirit will usher in to join us, as we faithfully reach out to many in our communities. That's why it's important that our "in-reach" is done first before the "out-reach". To this end, my Sunday messages and sermons will focus on the practical ways of reaching people in your sub-divisions, neighborhoods, workplaces, wherever, in 2023. Therefore, brothers and sisters of Our Saviour's, stay tuned, standby, and pray toward what lies ahead. In the meantime, continue to do your part of "in-reach" so that when our "out-reach" efforts yield fruits, much fruits, in Jesus' name, they will rightly be welcomed and loved on by this congregation.

Once again, thank you for asking the questions about our continued growth.

Happy fall, y'all! Pastor La



Reminder, the church office will be closed Monday, September 5th in observance of Labor Day.

The staff is going on a retreat and will be out of the office on Monday, September 19th.

Sharon Kacir will be managing the office to assist any of your needs.

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1ST REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS RESUME



Monday thru Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Office closed for lunch from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Office continues to be closed on Fridays

SPRINGFEST 2023



The Springfest Committee will soon be considering the recipients for those funds that will be donated to outside non-profits. If you have any group or organization that you would like to be considered, please contact Bruce Jank at 361-649-9502 or email him at jankba@yahoo.com and let him know. Please provide him with contact information for your

suggested recipient. Suggestions must be received by 9/30/22 to be considered.

Next Meeting: Monday, September 12th at 5:30pm in the High School Room



Dear Families,

By now, you have all started the new school year and gotten into the routine of everything that goes along with that. Wake up, breakfast, drop off, pickup, practice, dinner, sleep, repeat. Where does God fit into these busy schedules? We need to ask ourselves, are we planning our days around God, or are we fitting him into the spaces where we can? As the days march on, and the wheels spin

forward, it can be easy to let time slip away from you and become complacent. It is important to remember and to teach our children that just coming to church on Sunday's is not enough to have a meaningful and fulfilling relationship with God. It's a great start, but being a Christian is about so much more than coming into the building Sunday mornings dressed in our best. God does not leave us when we walk out those front doors. In fact, that's when we need him the most. We need Him on Monday mornings when we are running an hour behind, and the baby isn't even dressed yet. We need him on Wednesdays when we have homework, practice, Lighthouse and a pile of dishes that need to be done. We need Him on Fridays when we have just had enough, and we are looking forward to just relaxing for the weekend only to find out your son has a basketball tournament he only told you about today. In everything we do, we need God. We need Him to help us find peace, mercy, and grace during these trying and busy seasons of our lives. Each week, I encourage you to meditate on the scripture verses that we read on Sunday. Use then throughout your days. Meditate on them, study them and discuss them as a family. PUT THEM INTO ACTION. You will find significant changes in your week. You will no longer be stressed out about the traffic in the car line. You will find that cooking dinner for your family becomes something you are grateful for instead of burned by. Allowing God to be ingrained into the fabric of our everyday lives will transform us and our families.

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you." - Ezekiel 37:36

BIBLE HIGHLIGHTING ~ We will conduct two Bible Highlighting sessions for parents of children in the 2nd and 7th grades, one on Sunday, September 4th at 9:15 am in the Narthex and the other on Wednesday, September 7th at 5:45 pm in the MPR. You only need to attend one session. Bibles are provided by Our Saviour's. We encourage you to attend one of these important meetings to prepare the Bible you will present to your child on Sunday, September 11th at the service you normally attend. For more information, please contact the church office 575-4305.

CAMP EAGLE ~ will open its registration in late September-Early October. Please let Mrs. Susan know if you are interested in attending camp in the summer of 2023. Head Waters is open to completed 2^{nd} gradecompleted 5^{th} grade. River's Edge is open to completed 6^{th} graders- graduating seniors. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please let Mrs. Susan know.

PUZZLES & GAMES ~ What was Jesus's first miracle? The first 3 students to give me their answers IN PERSON will receive a \$10 gift card.

Last month's answer: The Gospels.

New Membership Class/Orientation



For those who are interested in being a member or for those who are curious as to what being a member at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is all about, you are invited to join Pastor La for two (2) consecutive sessions on Sunday, September 11th & 18th at 9:15 am (between both worship services) in the Conference Room. The sessions are FREE, but registration (sign-up) is expected. To do so, please contact Doris Dold at 574-8585 or email her at ddold42@gmail.com by Thursday, September 8th.

WOMEN OF THE WORD



W.O.W. – Will meet on Monday, September 19th at 6:00 pm in the MPR for a meal, fellowship, meeting and devotional time. All ladies of Our Saviour's are invited attend. This month the women are collecting paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, kleenex, etc.) and feminine hygiene products (pads, tampons, etc.) to be donated.

OSL MINISTRY LEADERS MEETING ON THE 1ST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH



Tuesday, September 6th at 5:30 pm in the Christian Ed Building.



HELPING HANDS OFFERING SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 4TH

The purpose of this fund is for individuals or families in the congregation who may at one time or another need a little help.

BAPTISM AT OUR SAVIOUR'S – Baptism is the first of the two sacraments. There is a list of guidelines to follow. If you desire more information about baptism here at Our Saviour's, please contact the church office at 575-4305.





OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH TABITHA QUILTING MINISTRY

Meets every Tuesday at 9:30 am in the Christian Ed Building
For more information about Tabitha Quilting Ministry contact Dorothy Waltersdorff at 576-1465
or Jean Gisler at 676-0484 or jeangislernp@gmail.com.

Life After Loss Support Group - Meets on the second Saturday of each month in the Christian Education wing of Our Saviour's. This month they will meet on Saturday, September 10th at 10:00 am. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to Pastor La.



Join us on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm in the Chapel as we pray for our church, community, and world.

PRAYER CHAIN – If you need to add someone to the prayer chain, please contact Pat DeDear at 361-676-5087 or the church office at 361-575-4305. Pat will then communicate the request by telephone to the prayer chain. Pat will also contact Debbie Krueger, who will then distribute the request electronically through email.



On behalf of the staff of Lutheran World Relief, our partners, and the communities we serve with your support, thank you for your gift and may God continue to bless you.

Thank you for giving so generously to the Lutheran Disaster Response. Your support helps our church continue its effective and efficient response to disasters.

Thank you so much for your very generous donation to VCAM. Your gift allows us to help community members who are in need.

Thank you for your donation to Christ's Kitchen it will help us to continue serving a hot meal at no charge to people in need.

Thank you for your partnership with Global Health Ministries. Your support has made it possible to ship life changing equipment and supplies around the globe.

CARD MINISTRY ~ If you know of someone who could use a get well or sympathy card, please contact Doris Dold at 361-574-8585 or <u>dedold@suddenlink.net</u>. We have recently added cards for milestone birthdays 75 & up and wedding anniversaries 60th & up.

	WEDNESDAY	
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29 12 noon - Pastor La's Bible Study in Conference Room	pm - Prayer in Chapel pm - Oasis Meal pm - Lighthouse Small Group pm - Sr. Choir Rehearsal	25 8:00 & 40:30 am - Worship Service 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep 4:00 pm - Pantry Partry

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Below is the schedule of worship assistants for this month.

We will provide training and instruction to those who have not already received this information.

NOTE: If you are not able to serve as scheduled, please try to find a replacement or call the church office at 361-575-4305.

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AROUND THE CHURCH FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND PRAYERS

If you have any information for AROUND THE CHURCH please call the church office.



We extend our deepest sympathy to... ..the family of Max Cornelius



Nicole Carter Abby Christian Konor Eliot Congratulations To Our Confirmands: Haley Morris Cole Neill



Special Concerns:

hearts that are facing a battle for good health, mind & spirit. All those we hold dear in our

Prayer is a strong wall and fortress of the church; it is a goodly Christian weapon. ~ Martin Luther

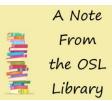


2023 BUDGET TIME

It is budget time. The 2023 budget is currently being developed. If your organization or group has any changes or additions for 2023, please get with Sally in the church office. Deadline is September 20th.

BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL LED BY PASTOR LA

Every Thursday at 12 noon in the Conference Room Bring your Bible and join us on Thursday, September 15th.



Book of the Month for September: "The King's Speech; How One Man Saved the British Monarchy" by Mark Loque and Peter Conradi is a selection from the Nonfiction section. You may have seen this movie; many thought it was wonderful. This is a true story based on recently discovered diaries of Lionel Loque. This book discusses how the very serious speech impediment of King George VI affected his life and the safety of his country since he couldn't speak to his citizens with understanding. An Australian speech therapist

worked with the king for years and was able to improve King George VI's speech as he assumed the reins of power as the King of England – just in time to help steer the nation through the dark waters of the Second World War. As the German invading troops were driven out of London, King George VI proudly delivered a prayer to Almighty God for delivering his people out of war.







An Invitation to Pray Earnestly - My alarm went off on my phone this morning at 9:38. Every Monday through Saturday since February my phone has made its obnoxious beeping noise to interrupt whatever I had been doing. It has startled me, annoyed me, and, on a few occasions, awkwardly interrupted something important. But ultimately, I thank God for these alerts that ring loudly each and every day. Why?

Because that alarm reminds me of Jesus' invitation in Matthew 9:38 to pause and "pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." At the end of July, over 250 folks gathered in Victoria for our District's Annual Gathering around this theme and Jesus' invitation to "Pray Earnestly." Together we studied this bible passage as speakers and preachers led us in pondering deeply what this means and what it would look like to live into Jesus' invitation.

So why the alarm? This past winter I had the honor of asking Jeremy Walloch to join us this summer as one of our keynote speakers. He immediately accepted and went to work on his outline. Soon thereafter I received a text message from Jeremy. He sent a few of his initial thoughts about his talk, but he shared a sense of conviction for having neglected Jesus' invitation in our theme verse. As so often happens, conviction is really God's way of pointing us to Christ's invitation or call to live in faith. Jeremy asked me to join him in setting a daily alarm to go off at 9:38 a.m. everyday and to covenant with him to pause whatever we were doing and pray.

And so it has been ever since. Every. Single. Day.

Now I wish I could tell you that every day I have been faithful in responding to and actually praying earnestly at each daily alarm, but that would be a lie. I have fallen short of the kind of consistency that I long for in this. But I can tell you that I have prayed a whole lot more than I ever had before and have been blessed by the focus of this prayer invitation. And so I pray earnestly: sincerely, hopefully, expectantly and consistently seeking God to raise up a generation of missionary leaders who are called, equipped and sent out for his harvest work.

So how about you? Will you join us in setting a daily reminder to pause and pray as Jesus invites you to? If you accept this invitation, know that it is okay if you miss a day or get distracted as you pray. Not one of us is perfect at praying as we should. Be gracious to yourself as God is gracious with you. Remember that Jesus chooses to engage you and me in this way. So let that annoying alarm be a blessed reminder of Jesus' invitation to pause and pray earnestly for harvest workers.



BUNCO PARTY

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MISSION VALLEY - 12183 FM 236

Monday, September 12th

Registration/Refreshments 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Bunco & Dominoes 7:05 pm RSVP to Cass Martignoni 361-649-3138 or Church Office 361-578-5447



Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce.
Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

Proverbs 3:9-10

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCE GENERAL FUND MONTHLY BREAKDOWN

BEGINNING BALANCE: July 1, 2022	\$212,489.73
TOTAL GF RECEIPTS:	\$54,489.13
OPERATING EXPENSES FOR MONTH:	
Benevolence	5,317.33
Spiritual Formation	0.00
Outreach	594.31
Youth & Children Ministries	1,725.87
Ministry Support	264.20
Worship Support	375.96
Office Support	781.56
Utilities	4,385.48
Supplies, Equip., Maintenance	4,434.84
Insurance	5,876.73
Miscellaneous Support	4,078.52
Staffing	22,309.92
TOTAL GF EXPENSES FOR MONTH:	\$50,144.72
ENDING BALANCE: July 31, 2022	\$216,834.14

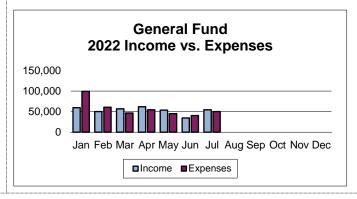


August Attendo	ince
Our average weekly at	tendance
for August 157	7.
August 7 th	160
August 14 th	157
August 21st	154

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS JULY BALANCES

Building Maintenance Fund	9,034.80
Children's Ministry Fund	10,765.34
Helping Hands Fund	6,040.82
Youth Ministry Fund	9,475.04
Memorial Fund	6,375.05
OSLC Ministry Fund **	70,540.06
Springfest Fund	3,199.20
OSLC Mission Fund	1,584.57
Spiritual Formation Fund	2,573.86
Genie Fuhrman MM Schlship	2,374.00
Total Mise Acets	\$121 062 74

** This fund consists of several small funds including: Tabitha Quilting Ministry, Kitchen, ILT, Choir, Prayer Garden, Grant activity & Food Pantry.





- **1. IN PERSON/WORSHIP -** On Sunday mornings during worship simply place your offering in the plate. If you miss the plate, there is a donation box at the Welcome Center.
- **2. ONLINE GIVING -** Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions or one-time contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:
- 1) Visit the church website at www.oslcvictoria.com,
- 2) Click on the [Give] tab,
- 3) Click on the [Give Online] line,
- 4) Click on the [Create Profile] button, then
- 5) Follow the instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your contributions.

This program supports bank accounts and debit or credit cards. Recurring donations are convenient and provide our church with much needed consistent support throughout the year. If you have any questions about either of these programs, please contact Sally Hersey at the church office. As always, thank you for your continued support.

- **3. RECURRING/SIMPLY GIVING** We have been using this program for some time now. The Simply Giving® Program offers church members a convenient, safe, and simple way to make regular church offerings without the need to write checks, carry cash or prepare envelopes. It is handled by a company named Vanco Services and they will process the auto withdrawal through your bank and deposit directly into OSL's account. A simple authorization form is all that is needed. Forms are available in the church office.
- 4. MAIL You may mail your offering into Our Saviour's at any time to 4102 N. Ben Jordan, Victoria, Tx 77901.

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OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 4102 N. Ben Jordan Victoria, TX 77901 361-575-4305 - Fax 361-575-8679 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

9064-673	Maintenance Custodian – Duane Hill
575-4305 ext. 7000	Office Administrator – Gina Eliot
575-4305 ext. 7001	Financial Administrator – Sally Hersey
575-4305 ext. 7006	CYF Director – Susan Woodson
575-4305 ext. 7002	Music Director – Amanda Christian
575-4305 ext. 7005	Music Director – David Means
90£ 7 -949	Pastor – Lalahery "La" Andriamihaja

EYI - CHURCH CONTACTS

5055 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

361-550-4477

361-573-2829

264-173-185

361-920-6267

9054-978

Treasurer - Lynna Briggs

Secretary - Marilyn Young

President - Gerald Merks

Housekeeping Custodian - Holly Pogue

Vice President - Janine Rothmann