

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 2019 Newsletter

4900 Kinsey Drive Tyler, Texas 75703
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The North American Lutheran Church

Dear Friends in Christ,

September is here and we are beginning a new year of Sunday School. I'm excited; I'm convinced that Sunday School is one of the most vital ministries that we do. Classes will begin on Rally Sunday, which is Sept. 8. Classes will be from 9:00 until 9:50 a.m. We offer classes for age 3 right through adults.

I'm going to be teaching the adult class this year. For many years at Our Saviour's I lead the adult class. But the last few years I've been teaching in various youth classes. That has been fun but it is time for me to switch back to the adult class. I'm excited, I love teaching adults!

Just a quick update on what I will be teaching. As you may remember, we did a survey last summer to see what people were interested in. A class on Revelation was the leading vote getter. We had 40 plus responses to the survey. Revelation received 23 votes, the Small Catechism received 12. The rest of the votes were split over a variety of topics.

So, we are going to start the year with Revelation. I do have to say that I am intrigued by the votes that the Small Catechism received. The Small Catechism is one of the great faith resources and teaching tools that Lutherans have. We will take a look at the Small Catechism over the course of this year. Next winter for Lent I'm planning to use the Wednesday night events to do a study through the Small Catechism.

But for this fall, we are turning to Revelation. My plan is to lead you through the entire book. My hope is to equip you to be able to read and appreciate the book for yourself. Revelation is a fascinating and powerful proclamation of the Lordship and victory of Jesus Christ. We are going to have some fun exploring its images and messages. I also want to spend some time looking at approaches to Revelation that I don't think are helpful. There is one view that is very prevalent in East Texas that suggests that Revelation lifts up an idea called the rapture. I find that a most unhelpful and unbiblical way to read Revelation. We are going to explore all of that.

So, Sunday, September 8, we begin our journey through Revelation. Please invite friends and non-members and anyone you think might be interested. We will do an in-depth study of this powerful last book of the Bible.

God Bless,
Pastor Mark

Sunday School Kick-Off – September 8

On Sunday, September 8 we will resume our Sunday School. We offer Sunday School for ages 3 through adults. Sunday School is from 9:00 a.m. until 9:50. Please keep this vital ministry in your prayers!

Sunday School in September

Sunday, Sept. 8 – First day of class for the fall.

*Classes begin at 9:00 a.m.

*We offer classes for age 3 through adults.

*Students, please go to the Sunday School wing and look for your classroom. There will be people in the hallway to assist you.

*Adults – you will meet again this year in the Fellowship Hall for a study of the book of Revelation.

Sunday, Sept. 29 – 4th grade students given Bibles during worship service

Prayer Time

On Sunday, September 1 at 9:30 we will have a time for congregational prayer in the conference room. We are looking forward to a busy and special fall; we need to take time together for prayer to support all of this. Please come as we undergird our ministries with prayer!

The NALC has a new Bishop

The NALC has a new bishop. He is the Reverend Dan Selbo from San Jose, CA. He was elected at our national convocation in Indianapolis in August.

Our congregation had 3 representatives at the convocation - Ken and Cheryl Pontious, and Pastor Mark. Please talk with them about all that happened.

And most important please be in prayer for Bishop Selbo!

Oktoberfest 2019

When: October 26, 2019 3:00-8:00

Where: Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Who: Church member families and friends

We have begun planning for Oktoberfest 2019. We are asking for the congregation to help with this annual event. If you are interested in helping, talk to Natalie Smith or any of the Church Council members. Mark your calendars and plan to join the fun and fellowship.

We are asking for the following donations of water, assorted individual chips and sodas: Coke, Dr. Pepper and Sprite, regular and diet.

This year will include a meal of brats, sauerkraut and German potato salad along with hotdogs. We will have water, sodas, and beer to drink. There will be a lot of music, dancing, and many activities for the kids.

We need volunteers to help. The planning committee meets once a month to prepare and plan.

Egyptian Coptic Worship

The Egyptian Coptic congregation that uses our worship space will worship here on Saturday, September 14 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

4th Grade Bibles

We will give out Bibles to our 4th grade students on Sunday, September 29 during our worship service.

Confirmation

Our confirmation class will begin meeting in September. Confirmation is for students in the 7th and 8th grade. We are looking this year at meeting on Sundays after worship. If you have a student you would like to have in our program, please call Pastor Mark.

PRIMETIMERS

Welcome back! Hopefully you had an enjoyable summer and are ready for some exciting, interesting, and informative get-togethers this season. Our next meeting is on September 12, 2019 at 12noon at OSLC. The luncheon is to be potluck (share a dish). Since the temps will probably still be quite warm, let's make it something light, like salad and sandwiches and of course dessert.

Kay Odom, Director of the Tyler Senior Center will be here with a demonstration/participation exercise program for **everyone**, regardless of their physical condition or disability. It is entitled **Texercise** and is approved and endorsed by the state of Texas. Senior centers throughout the state are implementing it in an effort to keep the senior population enjoying life. If possible, Kay suggests wearing casual loose clothing and tennis shoes if you have them.

Please RSVP to Jenny Videtto at jen.videtto@gmail.com by September 9th so there are adequate tables set up.

Please watch for changes, and/or additions to these plans.

Mark your calendars. This is an excellent time to bring friends for some fantastic Christian fellowship. There is nothing to obligate you or no one to intimidate you, just great Christian friends to welcome you. Remember we are the "most caring Primetimers in the world".

CityFest – October 5 and 6

On October 5 and 6, many of the churches in Tyler are joining together to support City Fest – a time of worship, outreach, celebration, music, prayer and fun for the whole Tyler community. It will be held in downtown Tyler in the Square. More information will be coming as the event gets closer, plan to attend!

"CityFest East Texas will be a two-day event from the afternoon into the evening. The festival will kick off with a Family Fun Zone and Actions Sport's zone. The Family Fun Zone will have inflatables, face painting, Gospel bracelets, and a Kid's Stage. On the Kid's Stage will be a variety of entertainment – from dancing to magicians. The Gospel will be presented at a level for any ages. Action Sports will have both FMX and BMX demonstrations by The Stunt Dudes. Halfway through their program, a biker will give their testimony with a chance to respond to the Gospel. The main stage program begins in the evening. We typically have two performers amidst testimonies and CityFest recap. Then Andrew Palau gives a message of hope with a chance to respond. Following Andrew will be a headline artist like Lecrae or Newsboys. Festival Friends will be at all areas to collect information that can be passed on to local pastors to allow responders to get plugged into churches."

For more information please go to www.cityfest.org

BYOB

Just a reminder, we say that our worship services are BYOB. What we mean by that is “bring your own Bible”! We want our members faithfully using their bibles, please bring yours to worship with you and use it during worship. If you should forget, there are always extra Bibles available in the narthex.

Social Ministry

The Social Ministry Committee follows the mandates of scripture to serve others, especially those who are ill, hungry, troubled, suffering injustice, or lacking basic needs. Each month, we will include a brief description of the organization (s) that our donations target.

PATH: The OSLC contributions to the PATH Fan Drive were very helpful again this year. We thank all of you who so generously responded to this effort. These fans helped make many people in our community more comfortable this summer.

Quilters: The Quilters are pleased to have quilted wall hangings. These are for sale. If you are interested in any of these, please contact Linda Tumino or Helen Siebert.

When the Quilters become aware that a member is experiencing a serious illness or recovering from a serious accident, they place a special quilt in the narthex. The congregation is invited to tie a knot and say a prayer on the person’s behalf. Please participate in this expression of love and concern.

The Quilters are always looking for new members. Anyone who is interested, please join us any Tuesday morning. We meet from 9:00 to 11:30 with a coffee break at 10:00. No experience is necessary. Only a desire to learn is required.

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