

Weekly Update from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church – July 27, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ

I'd like to do something a little different for this week's letter and that is simply say thank you. Our congregational ministries have done very well during this pandemic time. That is because a lot of people are working very hard. And it is most appropriate to say thank you for all that you are doing.

I'm proud of what we've been able to do during this time. We of course haven't shared in many of our traditional ministries. We've had to cancel various groups and VBS, worship looks a lot different. But even in these difficult times we've continued to live as the Body of Christ in the world and share in His concern for the needs of people. I'm grateful to see that.

We have done and are doing some very important things. We've kept up with our financial giving, which has enabled us to continue supporting all the benevolences that we work with. That is so vital in this time. Even more, we've exceeded our planned giving in a number of areas – to food banks and PATH, to ministries that are struggling, to people in need. All of that is because of your faithful giving. Thank you and please keep up the good work!

We are doing a good job of caring for and keeping up with our members and others in need. We wish we could do more but with the restrictions in hospitals and nursing homes we are limited. But we are calling and checking in on people, and visiting as we are able. That is so vital and a lot of that is going on.

We continue to offer worship. A lot of work has gone into our online services. And a lot of work goes into our outdoor service and our indoor service. We've had to make lots of new arrangements and try lots of new things. But we've had the people power to do that. Our members are working very hard to make sure this happens week after week. Thank you!

It is a strange time with all sorts of new challenges. But ministry continues, in ways beyond what we often realize. I'm grateful for all that is being done. That's what it means to be Christian; we are the people of God at work in the world – even in times of pandemic. Please keep up the great work!

God Bless,  
Pastor Mark

**Thank You for Wearing Your Mask**

Another word of thanks, thank you for wearing your mask. I know a lot of us really don't like doing so. But it is so important, especially when we gather on Sunday mornings. Thank you for doing this and helping to care for your neighbors!

**Congratulations Jaeyong and Jessica**

We have some great news to celebrate - our organist and music director, Jaeyong Lee was married to Jessica Greene on July 27. Please congratulate the newlyweds and remember Jaeyong and Jessica in your prayers on this special occasion.

### **Online Worship**

A reminder, OSLC now offers two different online worship formats each week. We are continuing to offer the shorter, more devotional format that we have done for the past 4 months. And we are also offering the entire worship service, which we know many of our members have been waiting for. Please watch the format that you prefer.

Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard on making this happen.

### **Online NALC Mission Convocation**

Every year in August the NALC holds a Mission Convocation. Delegates and pastors from all the congregations in the NALC gather to worship, renew, and do the business of the national church. Each year we send one or two delegates and Pastor Mark.

This year, due to health concerns resulting from the coronavirus pandemic, the NALC will not be able to meet in person. The convocation will instead be on-line. The good news about this is that you are all invited to check it out! All of our members can be part of all of the whole event or a segment. Our church council will appoint one voting delegate, but everyone can join in. This events really are fun. The NALC has intentionally focused on worship and proclamation and renewal at the convocation. The intent is to “fire up the church”. Please consider joining. Here is some preliminary information:

*The 2020 NALC Mission Convocation will meet online in two sessions Aug. 7-8 under the theme “2020 Vision.” The online meetings will be held 5-8 pm. CT on Friday, Aug. 7, and 1-5 p.m. CT on Saturday, Aug. 8. Please go to the NALC’s website to find out how to view – [thenalc.org](http://thenalc.org)*