

RALLY SUNDAY FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

On Sunday, September 13, Sunday School will kick off another year of fun and learning about God and his plan for your life. On that day, all Sunday School students will gather in the sanctuary from 9:15 am to 9:45 am, and then be released to their respective classrooms for a special snack.



At 9:45 am, we would like to gather all the parents of Sunday School kids for a brief meeting in the sanctuary to review the years calendar of events and other information.

HEARTS AND HANDS SERVICE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

As part of "God's Work, Our Hands" we will be looking for volunteers to help serve our community on Sunday, September 13, following the 10:30 am worship service. There will be various projects to participate in. Here is a sampling:

- *County Road 48 roadside clean up
- *Fleece blanket tying for families in need
- *Clipping Box Tops for Schools
- *Other projects to be announced

We have a sign up sheet for all events in the office.

If you are interested in donating fleece blanket kits or Box Tops for Schools coupons, please bring them to the church office.



BACKPACK BLESSING SUNDAY

will be September 13 at both the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services.

Bring your bags; invite your friends to join us for a blessing for the new school year!



WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

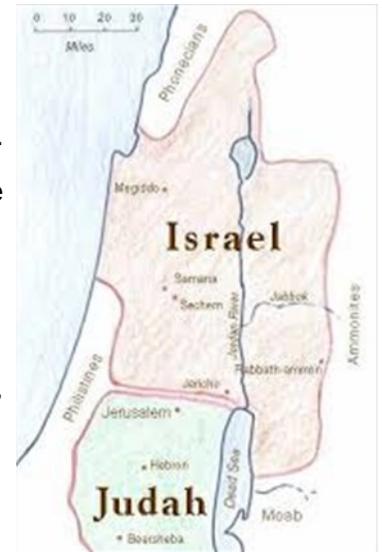


TWO WORSHIP SERVICES BEGIN
SEPTEMBER 13
AT 8 AM AND 10:30 AM

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MIKE

¹⁶ The prophet Elisha said to his servant, “Do not be afraid, for there are more with us than there are with them.” ¹⁷ Then Elisha prayed: “O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see.” So the LORD opened the eyes of the servant, and he saw; the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha—2 Kings 6:16-17.

The passage above comes from a story in the Old Testament, during the time of the Kings. Kings Saul, David, and Solomon, the first and greatest of Israel’s kings, are history at this point. God’s people have become fragmented, factionalized, and separated into two separate kingdoms, Judah in the south with its capitol in Jerusalem and Israel in the north with its capitol in Samaria. God has withdrawn God’s protection from his people, judging them on two counts: (1) their worship life, namely who and what they worship; and (2) their treatment of the widow, the orphan, and the alien stranger in their borders. Without this protection, God’s people find themselves at war with one another and constantly harassed and marauded by the neighboring nations around them.



But God is faithful to his people—even when they are not faithful to God... even when they are not faithful to the identity of grace and mercy to which God has called them. And so in spite of God’s withdrawal of protection, God continues to speak to his people. God continues to send his spokesmen, the prophets, by which God continues to warn them of their imminent demise if they do not change their ways. God continues to call them back to be the people God has created them to be, people who by their devotion to God mirror and reflect the mercy, grace, and love they themselves have first received. Elisha was just such one of those prophets, commissioned by God to call the kings, the people, and their nation back into relationship with God.

Yet because the will of the kings, of course, determined the direction of the nation, prophets like Elisha frequently found themselves crossways with the kings and the entrenched religious authorities who, in exchange for the king’s ear and perhaps a cut of his wealth, had become little more than “yes men” to the king. It was not a popular message from God’s prophet to say to the king, who had either allowed or even sponsored the construction of alternative sites for worship with associated abominable practices such as child sacrifice or temple prostitution, “*God will judge the nation for this.*” It was not a popular message from the prophet to say to the king, who constructed lavish palaces on the backs of the poor and resident aliens in the country, “*You cannot ignore and exploit and ignore the poor forever without placing yourself in opposition to God.*” For their efforts in faithfully delivering their message, the prophets usually found themselves rejected, ridiculed, and violently persecuted.

So it was for Elisha, at the point at which we pick up his story in 2 Kings 6:8-23. Elisha has been surrounded by the forces of one of the kings that he has opposed. Elisha’s servant looks out and sees the soldiers with horses and chariots that had surrounded the city of Dothan, where Elisha lived. “*Oh, my lord,*” the servant cried out in fear, “*What are we to do?!*”

“*Do not be afraid,*” was Elisha’s reply. **And then, despite whatever visible evidence to the contrary, Elisha makes this confession of faith: “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them” (2 Kings 6:16). Elisha knew—as should we—that when it comes to what God is up to in the world, it is often more than what meets the eye.**

And so Elisha turns to God in prayer: “*O LORD, open my servant’s eyes so he may see*” (v. 17). Lo and behold, what is revealed is that those who thought they had surrounded the Man of God were themselves surrounded by angels and chariots of fire. What is revealed is that God had the situation well under control.

(The rest of the story, by the way, is an amazing ending! Instead of having the enemy slaughtered, Elisha... well... you should check it out. J)

One of the questions to which we are invited through this story, I think, is, “Where do you see God at work?” Of course, that’s a daily, general question of faith, and one that guides us well each and every day, especially if we are well-acquainted with the grace-filled and loving presence of God as it is most clearly revealed in Jesus.

But it’s also a question that can be asked of our congregation. It’s also a question that guides our congregation. It’s a question through which, not a week goes by, that I don’t see something marvelous in our midst, and I know that some of you have had the opportunity to see these things, as well, **because they have most often taken place in, through, with, and under YOU, the people of God who have connected to a lived-out message of grace and generosity and mercy and service and love. O Lord, open our eyes that we may see!**

What do you see? Because here’s what I’ve been seeing: **we are poised, for the first time in a LONG time, to finish our summer financially in the BLACK.** Traditionally, as worship takes a back seat to the easy life of summer, our stewardship and the cash stream needed for ministry and mission gets kind of spotty. That did not happen this year! Thank you for your generosity and regularity! O Lord, open our eyes that we may see!

What do you see? Because here’s what I’ve been seeing: **we had one of the largest vacation Bible schools we’ve ever had here at SSLC, with a number of families not previously connected with the congregation.** It was such a fabulous week that one of our children’s education coordinators said, *“Normally, VBS has been something that we’ve endured, but this year, we had so much help it was a lot of FUN!!”* One of my favorite things about VBS is seeing the high school and middle school youth who, in part because of their experiences with our mission trips, have been equipped and enabled to step right up and be group leaders! Thanks to all who helped! O Lord, open our eyes that we may see!

What do you see? Because here’s what I’ve been seeing: **after VBS was complete, one of the new families who attended—they had been invited by one of the newer members of our congregation who joined the congregation this past Spring—came to Dinner Church.** This visiting family had been intrigued by some of the advertising they had seen about the Dinner Church experience, but it wasn’t until they had become more comfortable with the church through VBS that they were able to come. And...THEY invited a friend to come along, as well! *“Thank you for being so welcoming... for including me in the service,”* she told me at our last Dinner Church gathering, *“And for your message on forgiveness tonight. This is holy ground.”* O Lord, open our eyes that we may see!

What do you see? Because here’s what I’ve been seeing: **shortly after our return from the mission trip, an adult who had an incredible experience on the trip visited with me at length in my office.** She described how she and her child had been processing their experience on the trip. She told me, *“My kid said, ‘Mom, I just want to serve other people.’ And so we want to help put together regular opportunities for our congregation to serve together. How do I do that?”* So we chatted. And we brainstormed. And we made lists. And we connected her with the youth board. And we prayed. Already, she has put together a service project in which we made tied blankets after Dinner Church for the Maurer Family Benefit in Clear Lake this Sunday. This mom and her group are putting together our *“God’s Work, Our Hands”* Sunday that’s coming up **September 13.** (See the related article elsewhere in this newsletter and be tuned in to our regular communication streams for more information about that.) O Lord, open our eyes that we may see!

It really is everywhere if you want to see it. And I hope you can. Because it truly is miraculous.

Grace and peace—Pastor Mike

PRAYER REQUESTS

Paul Goebel (Donna Pozorski's nephew), Donovan Brown (Alberta Brown's son), Laura Hamacher (friend of Jenn Bluhm), Jerry Atwood, David Fidelman, Barb Kydd, Donna Bergman, Jerry Nitske (friend of Kaas'), Duane Bender (Dan Jergenson's brother-in-law), Craig Dahlberg, Lori Haugen (friend of Ken Kisner), Marilyn Ruhoff (Donna Pozorski's sister-in law), Mary Anderson (Kaas' friend), Susie Hoheisel (Stacey Baldry's friend), Kathy Lind (Sandy Empting's sister), John O'Reilly (Dawn Drayna and Kristie Cencer's uncle), Shirley Waldecker (Brenda Jergenson's Mom), Brian Minger (Amy Lear's uncle), Gladys Hoff (Elwood Orton's sister), Ronald Campbell (Donna Pozorski's brother), Annette Bistodeau (Mark Bistodeau's sister-in-law), Lydia Wallace (Dean Wallace's Mom), Wanda Gilyard (Daughter of Ron and Lavonne Gilyard), Gerrie Dahlberg (Craig Dahlberg's Mom), Dee Holt, Bonnie Olson, Ben Hales, Clinton Cox, Rosemary Mortrud (Greg Hurd's Mom), John Stroeing (Lisa Orton's brother), Margaret Heinen (Marianne Lindsey's Mom), Ves Stroeing (Lisa Orton's Dad).

MILITARY PRAYERS: Luke Nierengarten, Matthew Peabody, Adam Thom, Meghan Raygor, Zach Hurd, Ted Freese, Zac Heinen, Michael Jacobs, Jeremy Schuch, Brady Marxen, Daniel Kydd, Derek Brown, Logan Draack, Brandon Wiltsey, Derek Schleif, Lindsey Donelson, Adam Graning, Ryan Munsterman, Larry Hoffmann, Gidget Borst.

IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO
SHOULD BE ADDED TO OUR PRAYER LIST
OR PRAYER CHAIN,
PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR MIKE.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2015



FROM KELLY BERGMAN

Hiya SSLC!

I am happily writing to you from just down the road (WAHOO!!!) I returned home from my YAGM year in Edinburgh, Scotland on August 8th. Since then I have been spending time with family and friends and just trying to re-adjust to being back in the US (things are SO BIG here – cars and Super Target have sort of blown my mind).

As many of you know, while I was in Scotland I was working for a Christian organization called Bethany Christian Trust. They do incredible things for people experiencing homelessness all over Scotland. I had the pleasure of working at Bethany House, a hostel that provides temporary housing for people in Edinburgh who would otherwise be sleeping rough (aka sleeping on the street).

My job at The House was fairly simple – be with people. So, I was with people all day – cooking lunch, cleaning flats, making tea, praying, going to appointments, checking windows, doing dishes, reading scripture, having meals, dancing, playing pool, and making more tea (people in the UK LOVE tea). I know none of that really seems like much. Often I felt like what I was doing wasn't that big of a deal – average, ordinary tasks. In reality it was a big deal, not only for the residents at Bethany House, but for me as well. My heart was constantly being filled doing those average, ordinary tasks with people every day.

So now that I am back, I am going to fill my heart by being with people here. I am not sure exactly what that will look like, but my hope is that it will be something a bit like this: I will be with people at church on Sunday mornings; at youth group on Wednesday nights; drinking coffee any time, anywhere; in the sunshine; praying; dancing; laughing; singing; and reading scripture. To be honest, I don't really know what I am doing. So until I figure it out, I am going to be with people in this lovely community – people who have been with me providing encouragement and inspiration.

God's peace and love to all of you! Hope that I can be with you very soon! xx

Kelly Bergman

"If only you could sense how important you are to the lives of those you meet; how important you can be to people you may never even dream of. There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person." – Mr. Rogers



BACKPACK BUDDIES EVENTS

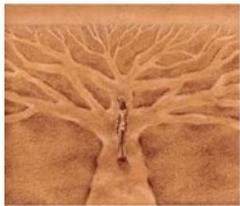


Mark your calendars and save the dates!

October 10th: We will be packing 1,200 meals during the SSLC Oktoberfest Event. If you wish to help with the loading or the set up the Wednesday before, please contact Jeremy. Our goal is to pack, box and deliver the meals on that day. Please plan to take a few moments and help make this happen.

November 13th: Mass Packing. We will be unloading and setting up on the 13th at 4:30pm in the Becker Middle School Commons. Mass Packing will be the 14th at 9am.

March 4th: Mass Packing. We will be unloading and setting up on the 4h at 4:30pm in the Becker Middle School Commons. Mass Packing will be the 5th at 9am.



PATHFINDERS 2.0 TO BEGIN IN THE FALL

INTERESTED IN JOINING SSLC?

NOT SURE BUT WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

**ALREADY A MEMBER AND WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BIBLE,
CHRISTIANITY, AND ITS LUTHERAN EXPRESSION?**

Pathfinders is our renewal and preparation learning, growth, and discipleship ministry.

It is for anyone *preparing* for **baptism, membership, and/or marriage** at SSLC.

But it is also for anyone who wants to learn more, to be renewed both in knowledge and practice.

If this describes you, a friend, or a family member in any way, please be in touch with Pastor Mike.

Or, check out our webpage on Pathfinders at www.sslcmn.org/pathfinders.html.

THIS YEAR, WE WILL BE ADDING A COMPONENT OF “SPONSORSHIP” FOR OUR NEW MEMBER PATHFINDERS. This means we will need **current members** to be those shepherds. This might include attending Pathfinders with your new members; connecting with them socially apart from church; holding them in prayer; and just generally being a familiar face to them at the church. **If this could be you, please contact Pastor Mike.** This could be a really, really rewarding mission and ministry for you!

THANK YOU TO:

- *Mark Bistodeau for lawn mowing;
- *The Mielke family for donating the candy tree;
- *All volunteers that have planned and decorated for our week of VBS;
- *Jeremy Hallquist, Curt Jarvi, Amy Lear, Karla Zerwas, Emily & Ellie Gallus for leading worship;
- *All families who donated snacks for VBS;
- *All adults and youth who helped with VBS;
- *Karla Zerwas and Jenn Bluhm for planning and organizing a great week of VBS for all 70 families that attended!;
- *Jenn and Luke Bluhm for their time and attention to making VBS a great success this year (70 kids !);
- *Bill Empting for designing and building a decorative wooden cross, sheetrock repairs; and for pressure washing the sidewalk;
- *All families who donated school supplies.

A very WARM thank you to the Pebble Creek Women’s Golf Club and to the members of South Santiago Lutheran for their generous support of the Backpack Buddies program this year. The Women’s golf club raised \$11,000 for the program. That money will be used to put a food shelf within the Becker High School. The food shelf has been something that has been talked about for many years but funding has been limited. With this generous donation we are able to provide meals not only to students but also to families that are in crisis.



THANK YOU FROM:

Thank you for the beautiful quilt!
Graham and Molly Loven

SEPTEMBER FAMILY SERVICE GROUP

	Sept 6	Sept 13	Sept 13	Sept 20	Sept 20	Sept 27	Sept 27
	9 am	8 AM	10:30 AM	8 AM	10:30 AM	8 AM	10:30 AM
READERS	S. Empting						
HEAD USHER		Kampa	Robb	Kampa	Robb	Kampa	Robb
USHERS							
GREETERS				Bistodeau		Bistodeau	
KITCHEN HELP		Kampa		Bistodeau		Bistodeau	
GOODIES	Person, T. Ulsby	Kampa, Person, T. Ulsby, K. Martin	K. Martin	Spiczka, Person, K. Martin, T. Ulsby, Bistodeau	K. Martin	Person, K. Martin, Bistodeau	K. Martin
BASKET HOLDER							
COMMUNION SRVS							
ACOLYTE		Grace & Joe Kampa		Grace & Joe Kampa		Grace & Joe Kampa	
MONEY COUNTERS	Klinker		Klinker		Klinker		Klinker
PROJECTION							
ALTAR GUILD	Empting, Harshman	Empting, Harshman	Empting, Harshman	Empting, Harshman	Empting, Harshman	Empting, Harshman	Empting, Harshman

Nursery Available for Younger Children



Parents of Small Children, ages 3 years and younger— We want to thank you, commend you, and support you in having your children in worship! Children learn to worship by watching adults worship. We believe children belong in worship, and when they can be engaged by what's going on in worship, they show us how to worship freely and without inhibition! ("Bring the little children to me, and do not hinder them," Jesus said.)

But we also want to offer you parents a break, because worship is also adult time. We are trying to offer a staffed nursery every Sunday, especially for during the sermon time when there is less action going on up front. If you are willing and able to give a Sunday occasionally in the nursery, please contact Pastor Mike or the church office.

Is September YOUR family's month to help for worship? We have 25 families in our group and 7 worship services in September.



If every family helps out just once, every job should be filled with ease.

It would be awesome to come to church every Sunday in September and see every spot filled in. Please consider making this small commitment to help our church run smoothly on Sundays. We understand that September is a school start up month, so if you can't help out this month please consider filling in a spot during another month that works better for your schedule. You can email the church, sign in on the schedule in the narthex, or sign up on our website: www.sslcmn.org under the stewardship tab. Thanks!

COUNCIL MINUTES-AUGUST

Called to order at 7:14 pm by President Julie Jarvi.

Members: Mark Swanson, Dani Priebe, Pastor Mike Pancoast, Todd Drayna, Joy Hurd. Present: Jeremy Hallquist, Kelly Bergman.

Adopted amended agenda (added council vacancy as item 2).

Devotion—2nd & 3rd petitions of the Lord's Prayer.

*Current vacancies—One voting member, one youth member. Moved by Dani, second by Joy to add Kelly Bergman to the council to fill vacant voting member position. Approved unanimously.

*No minutes from June meeting available for review, July meeting did not have a quorum (no minutes).

*Approval of June treasurer's report moved by Todd, second by Dani. Approved.

*Approval of July treasurer's report moved by Kelly, second by Joy. Approved.

*Disaster plan—training to be done by Joy for designated personnel. Names still needed to complete content. Pastor Mike to announce during worship.

*Pastor report highlighted Visitation Ministry and need for feedback on Pathfinders for fall.

*Jeremy's report highlighted summer trips—some challenges. Highlighted Backpack Buddies fundraiser and mission trip as well as local ministry (first on Sept. 13th—"God's Work, Our Hands"). Working on summer programming. Backpack Buddies—food shelf in school.

*Jeremy has been accepted into seminary—keep working though the impact on Youth ministry as this progresses and we will continue in conversation and staff will work out coverage.

*Request for support during required onsite at Seminary moved by Mike, second by Dani, approved.

*Moved by Mark and second by Todd to allow exception to the building use policy for Oktoberfest.

Adjourned at 8:53 pm, closed with the Lord's Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Rally Sunday for Sunday School will be September 13, at 9:15 am for children from age 3 through 4th grade. If your children need to register this year, please see Karla Zerwas or contact the church office.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*1st-2nd grade teacher(s)

*3rd grade teacher(s)

*Age 4 teacher(s)

*Substitute teachers for any age class

*Anyone interested in contributing to the Education Board.

Please contact Karla Zerwas for any of these openings.



CHILDREN'S BIBLES



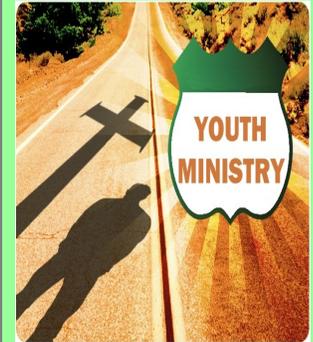
Each student in Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade will be receiving a gift of a Children's Bible at worship services on October 4, 2015.

We have scheduled an informal class for students and their parents on September 20 and September 27, at 9:15 am. Please plan to attend if your child will be in Kindergarten, 1st or 2nd grade this school year. If you are not able to attend this class, please contact the church office.

YOUTH NEWS

September

September 2nd: Youth Program Orientation 6:30—7:30 pm
 September 8th: Youth Board Meeting 6:00 pm at SSLC
 September 9th: Worship 6:30 pm -Youth Program Kickoff to follow
 Youth Bible instruction
 September 16: Worship 6:30 pm—Youth program follows
 Youth Bible instruction
 September 20: Youth Bible instruction 9:15 am
 September 23: Worship 6:30 pm—Youth program follows—Youth Bible Instruction
 September 27: Youth Bible instruction 9:15 am
 September 30th: NO WORSHIP Youth Food Scavenger Hunt—
 6:00 pm (TIME CHANGE)



October

October 3rd: 10th Grade Confirmation Stole Making Day. 8 am-1:00 pm.
 October 3rd: Juniors pick quilt colors 9 am—10:30 am
 October 4th: 5th grade students receive Spark Bibles at both services—
 October 4th: Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser 8:30 am arrival
 October 7th: Worship 6:30 pm—Youth program follows
 October 10: Oktoberfest at SSLC 11 am
 October 13th: Youth Board Meeting at SSLC 6:00 pm
 October 14: NO WORSHIP OR YOUTH PROGRAM
 October 21st: Worship 6:30 am—Youth Program follows
 October 25th: Confirmation Sunday 10:30 am, students arrive at 8 am.
 October 28th: Worship 6:30 pm—Youth Program follows



November:

November 1st: Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser 8:30 am arrival
 November 4th: Worship 6:30 pm—Youth Program follows
 November 7th: Juniors pick quilt colors 9 am—10:30 am
 November 8th: Christmas Basket Fundraiser begins at both services
 November 10th: Youth Board Meeting at SSLC 6:00 pm
 November 11th; Worship 6:30 pm—Youth Program follows
 November 13/14: Backpack Buddies Mass Packing at Becker Middle School Time TBA
 November 18th: Worship 6:30 pm—Youth Program follows
 November 21st-22nd: Junior High Youth Gathering, Willmar, MN. Cost is \$100. Open to grades 5-9th.
 November 25th: NO WORSHIP OR YOUTH PROGRAM
 November 29th: Advent Craft Sunday—Youth helpers Needed



December:

December 2nd: Worship 6:30pm- Youth Program Follows
 December 6th: Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser: 8:30am Arrival
 December 9th: Worship 6:30pm- Youth Program Follows
 December 13th: Christmas Basket Winners Drawn
 December 16th: NO WORSHIP- Youth Christmas Party/Pizza
 December 23rd: NO WORSHIP/NO YOUTH
 December 30th: NO WORSHIP/NO YOUTH





Calling All Aspiring Artists!!

The way we receive our weekly Bible readings is called "**the Narrative**

Lectionary." That is, beginning with Genesis, we read through the Bible following some broad themes on Sunday mornings and fill in the gaps with some weekly readings in between. We follow a broad, over-arching *narrative* or story within the Bible.

Like last year, we're going to keep track of that story through a visual time-line that YOU will help create with **ONE PIECE OF ART PER SUNDAY!!**

- **ANY AGE and ANY LEVEL OF ARTISTRY.**
- Individuals, confirmation small groups, SS classes
- 16x20 canvases provided (\$5 per, would be helpful.)
- **Please fill the whole canvas.**
- Any medium--paints, markers, crayons, mixed media, photographs, etc. **BE CREATIVE!!**
- Submit by the **Wednesday before it is to be displayed on Sunday**
- Submit with the art: a title of the piece; the artist's name; the medium (acrylic, water color, crayon, etc.); a brief paragraph describing the piece and how/why you did what you did--i.e., how does this art connect to the Bible reading.
- To sign-up, go to our website (www.sslcmn.org) .

For more information or questions, please contact the church office.

FRIENDSHIP BIBLE STUDY

Will begin meeting again in September and each month during the school year. Their first night will be Monday, September 21, at 7 pm. Please contact Barb Marsh for more information.



...AND... related to the Bible Story Timeline...

Anyone willing to be the "point person" for it?

"What's involved?"

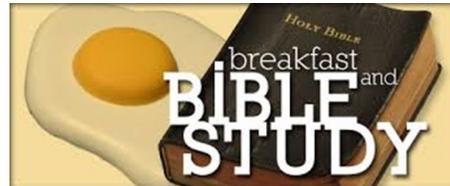
I'M GLAD YOU ASKED!!

- Check the sign-up sheet from week to week.
- Follow up with a friendly reminder to the signed-up artists.
- Solicit volunteers for any blanks that might be on the sheet.

That's basically it! Anyone willing and able?



Breakfast and the Bible (formerly Men's Breakfast) to resume in October.



Normally, we'd look to restart in September, but we have TWO weddings, which can make it kind of challenging with clean-up and set-up and so on. So our first Breakfast and the Bible will be **Saturday, October 17, 8 - 9 AM**. There is no topic set, at this point, so if you have some suggestions... something you've always wondered about... something you have questions about, etc., let Pastor Mike know. Pastor Mike (and whoever wants to help) will cook a hot breakfast on the first Saturday, and then we'll take turns providing breakfast (donuts, coffee cake, etc.) on the rest of the Saturdays. All are welcomed. No prior knowledge or skill required.

CHURCH NEWS

Pastor Mike's Weekly Schedule—beginning the week of Sunday, Sept. 6

Mondays: Day Off
Tuesdays: 9 AM – 3 PM
Wednesdays: 9 AM – 4 PM
Note: We meet as a staff from around 10 -11:30 AM.
Thursdays: 9 AM – 3 PM
Fridays: All day—Visitation Day. **Pastor Mike is not in the office at all.**
Saturdays: As needed.



Please note:

These hours just reflect posted office hours. They do not reflect evening meetings, hospital visits, confidential pastoral care, etc.

These hours will flex with personal family needs (i.e., school programs, etc.); conference, synod, or other outside board meetings (i.e., Lutheran Campus Ministry at St. Cloud); and other as-needed daily and weekly interruptions where ministry happens.

If you call or come to the office looking for Pastor Mike, and he's not available, **please leave word with the staff that you are looking for him. He will get in touch with you and return your message ASAP.**

You can also contact him any time by cell (763-333-4499, call or text); by email (sslcpastor@windstream.net); or by Facebook private message (PastorMike Pancoast).



Ministry in Action!!!

Halle Bluhm and Ella McDonald set up their lemonade stand and raised over \$800 to donate for the benefit for the Maurer family in Becker.

Good job girls!!

MISSION NIAGARA 2016:

Our 2016 Mission Trip has been announced! Spaces for this trip will be limited due to the location. If you are interested in attending, please sign up after September 2nd. The estimated cost for this event will be \$550. We will be leaving approximately July 1st and returning on the 10th. This will be open to students in grades 5-12th. If you have questions please contact Jeremy.



CHURCH NEWS

Did You Know?

We have a Meals Ministry program at SSLC! There have been a group of women who have been making and providing meals for members of our congregation when there is an illness, a health concern, or a need. If you would like to find out more and get connected contact Roberta Bistodeau or Dee Punton. You can either provide meals, storage dishes or cooking dishes for them to use for those families. You may bring gently used or new cookware to the church office. Please contact either Roberta or Dee if you would like to help make meals for families.



SSLC CHOIR

Practice for our choir ministry will begin on Sunday, September 13 at 9:15 am. They meet to practice on the first three Sundays of the month, and sing at worship on the fourth Sunday of each month.

All are welcome to join in praising God with our voices!



RECYCLING TRAILER IS OPERATIONAL!
FEEL FREE TO DROP BAGGED
ALUMINUM CANS AT TRAILER.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



HELP! PRAYER SHAWLS NEEDED!



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

is looking for volunteers to knit or crochet prayer shawls. What a good way to pass a rainy day at the cabin! They are also accepting donations of yarn to be used for shawls. The type of yarn used is Lion Brand "Homespun." Each shawl uses 3 skeins of yarn in a matching color. Please contact Tammy Alickson for more information.



ALL MILITARY FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

We have a bulletin board to recognize those members and friends in their service for our country.

We would like to include all active and retired personnel from all branches of service, all law enforcement, and all firefighters.

The information we are gathering: Name, Rank, Dates of Service, Branch of Service, Where stationed or area. We would like to place a 4 inch by 6 inch photo with the description of each person. If you have photos and bios to be added to this board, please bring them to the church office.

MEN'S BOUNDARY WATERS

CAMPING TRIP

SEPTEMBER 4-7, 2015

Calling all men to join in an opportunity to spend a few days in the Boundary Waters camping, fishing, canoeing, and learning what it means to survive in the great outdoors. Take the time to enjoy God's creations in nature. Trip will be for adult men only (age 21 and over). More details to follow. For more information, contact Jim Kocherer or Jeremy.



SUICIDE HOTLINE

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
800-273-8255

CHURCH NEWS

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP TEAM

We are looking to rebuild our Contemporary Worship Ministry this year. Practices will be held on the second Sunday between services and we will play the third Sunday for both services. If you have an interest in playing/singing, or just want to participate in supporting the program please contact Jeremy for details. We look forward to sharing our gifts and worshipping through music and word!



Hearts and Hands Ministry Team

Recently, we had a member approach us looking for ways to serve in our local community. The conversation turned to opportunities to find connecting points for youth, adults, and the community to get involved in building a better community for our children. This group has taken on events like the “God’s Work; Our Hands” Sunday on the 13th of this month. They will also be finding ways to serve in simple ways.

If you would like to connect with this group and build service into your family or faith journey please contact Jeremy. We are also looking for projects that we could take on throughout the year. If you have a neighbor that could use a blessing, or know of something that could be done feel free to contact Jeremy or this group.



FANTASY FOOTBALL 2

Last years winnings of \$320 was donated to the Vikings Children’s Fund. Who will win this year? Sign up on our Sign Up Genius site and bring your \$25 entry fee to the church office by September 6. Once you join, a link will be sent to you to join the league. The automatic draft day will be set once you join. Good luck to all!



**ARE YOU A FIRST RESPONDER;
HAD FIRST AID TRAINING; OR
BEEN CERTIFIED AT ANY
POINT IN CPR?**

Council has been working on implementing our crisis/emergency plan. Part of that is simply knowing WHO has the skills and WHAT those skills may be. If you have (or have had in the past) any of those skills, please let Shelly know in the church office. Thanks!

CHURCH BUILDING KEY HOLDERS:

In an effort to address possible security issues, and to have an current listing on who has keys to our building, ALL LOCKS IN THE BUILDING HAVE BEEN REPLACED. If you have a key, please turn your old one in for a new one with Shelly in the office. If you don’t have a key and need one, please let her know and we will get you one. All keys are numbered and assigned on a list for our record keeping. Thanks!



PET REMEMBRANCE & BLESSING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 AT BOTH SERVICES



Come join us—and bring your beloved pets—for worship that reminds us of our true hope in Christ Jesus to make all things new in the resurrection. Features of the day will include...A blessing for all pets who come with you, Treats for cats and dogs—maybe birds and fish too? A time of remembrance for all pets we have lost over the past year. Anyone who is willing to help out with making this an extra-special day, please contact Pastor Mike!!

CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Church Council Members

President • Julie Jarvi • jajarvi@midco.net
 Vice President •
 Treasurer • Carey Bowles • manicstamper@zoom.net
 Secretary • Mark Swanson • swanny@izoom.net
 Member • Todd Drayna • tdkk1996@yahoo.com
 Member • Luke Bluhm • ljbluhm@hotmail.com
 Member • Steve Popplewell • nicolepopplewell@yahoo.com
 Member • Dani Priebe • DaniNikki@shertel.net
 Member • Joy Hurd • joy.hurd1@gmail.com
 Member • Kelly Bergman • kellybergman10@gmail.com
 Member • Frannie Bowles • fbowles98@gmail.com

Committee Chairs

Board of Education • Karla Zerwas 763-262-8077
 Building & Grounds • Rich Alickson 763-856-2511
 Cemetery Board • Bill Rogers 320-743-3031
 Family Service Group • needed
 Head Ushers • needed
 Historian • Holly Klinker 320-345-0040
 Librarian • Rosalie Klinker 763-263-2540
 Money Counters • needed
 Nominating Committee • needed
 Pig Roast Committee •
 Stewardship Comm. • Sam Stone • stones@centracare.com
 Worship & Music • Holly Klinker 320-345-0040
 Long Range Planning •
 Youth Ministry • Jeremy Hallquist 612-201-6382

Active Groups

Altar Guild • Sandy Empting 320-743-2626
 Befrienders Ministry • Marlene Olson 320-743-2524
 Funeral Coordinator • Church Office
 Graduate Quilters • Shelly Bluhm 763-662-2468
 Men's Bible Study • Mark Swanson 763-262-2734
 Mission Quilters • Shelly Bluhm 763-662-2468
 Nursery Contact • needed
 Prayer Chain • Carol Michaletz 320-743-5199
 Prayer Shawl Ministry • Tammy Alickson 763-856-3320
 Relay for Life • Donna Pozorski 763-856-8474
 Sharing Meals • Dee Punton 320-743-3438
 Sunshine Committee • Sandy Empting 320-743-2626
 • Barb Kydd 320-743-2924
 Women of SSLC • Cheryl Ellingson 763-662-2224
 Faith Chests • needed
 Backpack Buddies • Sara Gallus 763-262-1240

Staff

Pastor • Mike Pancoast • sslcpastor@windstream.net
 Director of Youth & Family Ministries • Jeremy Hallquist •
sslcjeremy@shertel.net
 Office Administrator • Shelly Bluhm • sslcoffice@izoom.net
 Choir Director • Heidi Hansen • pianolady@izoom.net
 Musician • Heidi Hansen • pianolady@izoom.net
 Bookkeeper • Shelly Bluhm • sslcfinance@windstream.net
 Custodian • Sandy Empting • windyofarm@aol.com

WELCOME KELLY BERGMAN



We are pleased to announce our newest councilmember Kelly Bergman. She will be filling the open council position for the remainder of this calendar year. Thank you Kelly!

PLANNING AN EVENT AT SSLC?

Please complete a Unified Communication Form to submit to the church office. It will help us to publicize your event in the bulletin, newsletter, website, etc. You can find this form on our website in the column below the weekly bulletin and newsletters, and blank forms in the church office. Thank you!



South Santiago Lutheran Church: *Teaching the Word, Reaching the World*

Unified Communication Form

Today's Date: _____
 Person Submitting Request: _____
 Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Title of your ad, article or event: _____
 Check all of the following ways you would like your event to be communicated. Items will be communicated on a space available basis with large group events taking precedence. Submit all information to Shelly Bluhm. Email: sslcoffice@izoom.net or Phone: 763-662-2048

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulletin:
Dates Requested: _____
<i>Due on Monday before the start date of the event.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook Page:
Date Requested: _____
<i>Information should be given in a timely manner so that we can adequately share this information with others.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Verbal Announcement in Worship:
Date Requested: _____
Name(s) of person(s) giving the announcement: _____
8 AM _____
10:30 AM _____
<i>Information for Announcements should be given before worship starts on Sunday and Verbal Announcements need to be as short as possible.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter:
Month Requested: _____
<i>Newsletter information is due by the 15th of the previous month of the desired newsletter. Submissions later are up to the discretion of the Office Administrator.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Narthex Signs (Posters):
Date Requested: _____
<i>Due Monday before announcements should start.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> E-mail Blast:
Date Requested: _____
<i>Due by noon on Monday of the week you wish to have information go out. All e-mail blasts will be combined and sent out only one time each week.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SSLC Website:
Dates Requested: _____
<i>Website information will be put up in a timely manner. Please note that it may take up to a week to get published. Please plan accordingly.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper Press Release:
Date Requested: _____
<i>Due 2 weeks prior to being published.</i> |

Ad/article content: Write as if your audience knows nothing about what you are advertising. Please include, what, when, time, where, etc. Be Specific:

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SEPT. BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



SIMPLY GIVING ENROLLMENT

BIRTHDAYS

9/01 Kristen Alickson
 9/01 Cooper Bluhm
 9/02 Ted Lysdal
 9/02 Todd Anderson
 9/04 Karen Jensen
 9/04 Jakki Fidelman
 9/04 Stephanie Andren
 9/04 Zach Hurd
 9/05 Ann Kooiker
 9/05 Amity Felton
 9/05 Grant Steffens
 9/06 Jennifer Wipper
 9/06 Whitney Raygor
 9/06 Kelsey Janisch
 9/07 Loren Simmons
 9/07 Karen Steffens
 9/08 Sam Ewald
 9/08 Daisy Kent
 9/08 Ryan Gilmore
 9/10 Mark Lumley
 9/10 Scott Gedde
 9/12 Kari Peabody
 9/12 Eli Martin
 9/13 Lavonne Gilyard

9/13 Brook Zoller
 9/14 Isabella Rick
 9/15 Matthew Peabody
 9/15 Benjamin Cencer
 9/16 Peggy Gilyard
 9/16 Kacie Bursch
 9/16 Chloe Orton
 9/17 Kaitlyn Suckert
 9/17 Luke Reisem
 9/18 Colleen Bursch
 9/18 Wayne Robertson
 9/18 Adeline Kent
 9/19 Amy Anderson
 9/20 Leann Simmons
 9/20 Trent Tople
 9/20 Kylie Bierschbach
 9/22 Cooper Lindsey
 9/23 Tonia Ulsby
 9/23 Tami Klapak
 9/25 Mike Peabody
 9/25 Danyell Pozorski
 9/26 Katie Bierschbach
 9/27 Bill Empting
 9/27 Al Fish
 9/27 Sarah Peabody
 9/28 Steve Wynkoop

9/28 Jeff Bergsten
 9/28 Stella Bloch
 9/29 Callie Doucette

ANNIVERSARIES

9/01 Roger & Melanie Niday
 9/03 Ralph & Jane du'Monceaux
 9/03 Dan & Sheri Haus
 9/05 Andy & Jan Ulsby
 9/07 Paul & Molly Loven
 9/08 Lew & Marlene Olson
 9/09 Stan & Mary Gustin
 9/12 Ted & Ginny Lysdal
 9/14 Dave & Wendy Reisem
 9/18 Steve & Kris Bachler
 9/19 Dan & Lisa Salfer
 9/20 Eric & Regan Stommes
 9/22 Dan & Gretchen Huwe
 9/24 Gary & Marianne Lindsey
 9/26 Tim & Emily Gallus
 9/27 Mitch & Christine Bonnema
 9/27 Luke & Jenn Bluhm

Churches have obligations just like families and businesses. When church members agree to an automatic payment arrangement, we can better budget our income because we know how much is coming and when. And if you leave town and miss worship, your giving and promised contributions are taken care of for you automatically so you don't have to worry about it.

Visit the website: www.sslcmn.com or email sslcfinance@windstream.net, or the church office if you are interested in Simply Giving.



FACTS AND FIGURES

Fund	July	Y-T-D
Total Income*	\$18,295	\$200,250
Total Expenses	\$26,865	\$189,407
Difference	-\$8,570	\$10,843

*Total Income combines all Offerings PLUS any other income we have received for the month.

Noisy Offering for August and September

We will be combining our offerings with the offerings from the VBS students to purchase Children's Bibles for students in Thailand as part of our VBS Operation Kid to Kid program.



JULY OFFERINGS

ATTEND-ANCE	1st/2nd service
7/5	63
7/8	30
7/12	110
7/15	20
7/19	112
7/22	21
7/26	97

General Fund	\$13,210
Youth	\$315
Building Fund	\$3,952
Coffee	\$86
Backpack Buddies	\$10
Savings Rebuilding	\$1
Sunday School	\$150
Noisy Offering	\$162
Other Income	\$15
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$17,902

SEPTEMBER 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Worship and Youth Orientation 6:30 pm	3	4 OFFICE CLOSED Boundary Waters Trip	5 Boundary Waters Trip
6 Worship at 9 am FOOD SHELF SUNDAY Boundary Waters Trip	7	8 Men's Bible Study 10 am Youth Board 6 pm Altar Guild 6:30 pm All Committees 6:30 pm Council 7 pm	9 Worship 6:30pm Youth Kickoff to follow First Bible Instruction	10 Esther Bible Study 7 pm	11 OFFICE CLOSED	12
13 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM Backpack Blessing Sunday School Rally Sunday 9:15 am Choir 9:15 am Hearts & Hands 11:30 am	14 Education Board 7 pm	15 Men's Bible Study 10 am Stewardship 8 pm	16 Priscilla Bible Study 9 am Worship 6:30pm Youth to follow First Bible Instruction	17	18 OFFICE CLOSED	19 Mission Quilting 9 am Paul/ Engdahl wedding
20 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM Sunday School 9:15 am First Bible Class 9:15 am Choir 9:15 am	21 Friendship Bible Study 7 pm	22 Men's Bible Study 10 am	23 Worship 6:30pm Youth to follow First Bible Instruction	24 Biblical Brew 7 pm at RF Doering Farms	25 OFFICE CLOSED Free Wedding Rehearsal 6 pm	26 Free Wedding 3 pm
27 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM Sunday School 9:15 am First Bible Class 9:15 am Choir 9:15 am	28	29 Men's Bible Study 10 am	30 Youth Food Scavenger Hunt 6 pm NO WORSHIP			

OCTOBER 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 Graduate Quilt- ing 9 am Confirmation Stole Making 8 am—1 pm Juniors Pick Quilts 9 am
4 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 am Pancake Breakfast 9:15 am Bible gifts given at both services FOOD SHELF SUNDAY Choir 9:15 am	5	6 Men's Bible Study 10 am	7 Worship 6:30pm Youth to follow	8 Esther Bible Study 7 pm	9 OFFICE CLOSED	10 Octoberfest 11 am—3 pm Backpack Buddy food packing during Oktoberfest
11 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM Pet Blessing-both services Sunday School 9:15 am Choir 9:15 am Fowler Baptism 10:30 am	12 Education Board 7 pm	13 Men's Bible Study 10 am Youth Board 6 pm All Committees 6:30 pm Council 7 pm	14 NO WORSHIP OR YOUTH PROGRAM	15	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17 Breakfast & the Bible 8 am Mission Quilting 9 am
18 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM NO Sunday School Choir 9:15 am Timm Baptism 10:30 am	19 Friendship Bible Study 7 pm	20 Men's Bible Study 10 am Stewardship 8 pm	21 Priscilla Bible Study 9 am Worship 6:30pm Youth to follow	22 Biblical Brew 7 pm	23 OFFICE CLOSED	24 Breakfast & the Bible 8 am
25 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM CONFIRMATION SUNDAY Sunday School 9:15 am Choir 9:15 am	26	27 Men's Bible Study 10 am	28 Worship 6:30pm Youth to follow	29	30 OFFICE CLOSED	31 Breakfast & the Bible 8 am 

NOVEMBER 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM FOOD SHELF SUNDAY Pancake Breakfast 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Choir 9:15 am	2	3 Men's Bible Study 10 am	4 Worship 6:30pm Youth to follow	5	6 OFFICE CLOSED	7 Breakfast & the Bible 8 am Juniors pick quilts 9-10:30 am Graduate Quilting 9 am
8 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM Sunday School 9:15 am Choir 9:15 am	9 Education Board 7 pm	10 Men's Bible Study 10 am Youth Board 6 pm Altar Guild 6:30 pm All Committees 6:30 pm Council 7 pm	11 Worship 6:30pm Youth to follow	12 Esther Bible Study 7 pm	13 OFFICE CLOSED Backpack Buddy food to unload at Becker Middle School 4:30 pm	14 Breakfast & the Bible 8 am Backpack Buddy packing at Becker Middle School 9 am
15 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM Sunday School 9:15 am Choir 9:15 am	16	17 Men's Bible Study 10 am Stewardship 8 pm	18 Priscilla Bible Study 9 am Worship 6:30pm Youth to follow	19	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21 Breakfast & the Bible 8 am Mission Quilting 9 am Junior High Gathering
22 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM Sunday School 9:15 am Choir 9:15 am	23 Friendship Bible Study 7 pm	24 Men's Bible Study 10 am	25 NO WORSHIP OR YOUTH PROGRAM	26	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28
29 Worship at 8 am & 10:30 AM Choir 9:15 am ADVENT CRAFT DAY 9:15	30					

1st Annual SSLC



Saturday
October 10,
2015

Fun for the WHOLE family!!



Delicious BBQ Pulled Pork Community
Meal from 11-1pm

***B - I - N - G - O**
for all ages

***Annual Raffle with**
over \$2,000 in cash
and prizes

***Live Band-Loss4Words**

***Beer Garden**

Kids' Games

- *Hay Rides**
- *Musical Hay Bales**
- *Clueless the
Balloon Twister**
- *Turtle Races**
- *Dress the
Scarecrow**
- *Face Painting**
- *Wacky Hair**

South Santiago Lutheran Church
14675 - 37th Street
Clear Lake, MN 55319



Pastor Mike Pancoast

Phone: 763-662-2048

Email: sslcoffice@izoom.net

Website: www.sslcmn.org

“Teaching the Word, Reaching the World”

We are a congregation whose core values seek changed lives through the power of the Holy Spirit by forming and sustaining life-long personal faith in God through Christ Jesus. We practice this by engaging in cross-generational ministry and radical hospitality as it is revealed by God's Word. We do this by connecting with our congregation, the community and the world.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Sundays at 9 a.m.

(starting Sept 13 8 am & 10:30 am

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

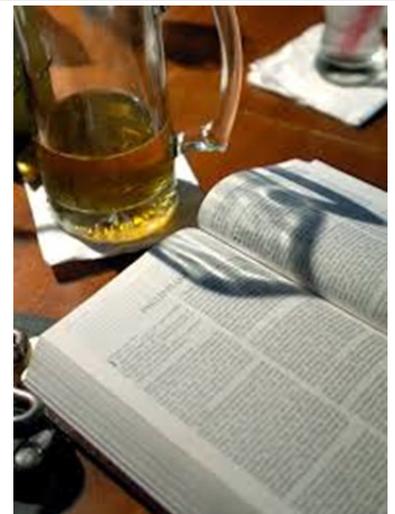
Holy Communion offered every Sunday/Wednesday

Office Hours Monday - Thursday 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Biblical Brew to Resume in September—

Come join us for fellowship; getting to know each other better; and growing together in practice and understanding as Biblical Brew resumes on Thursday, September 24, 7 PM, a little later than our previous meetings. In addition to our Faith Talk topic(s), we'll also discuss this season's frequency of meeting and the format for our gathering.

We'll be meeting at RF Doering Farms, 12843 37th Street (same street as the church, same side of the street as the church, but right off Hwy 25, near Jan's Tree Farm.) Owner Wayne Marklowitz and his family are in the beginning stages of growing and processing hops, an integral ingredient, of course, in the beer making process. (For more information on RF Doering Farms, check out their website at <http://rfdoeringfarms.weebly.com/> or go to their Facebook page at "RF Doering Farms."



Refreshments of all kinds will be provided. Feel free to bring a snack of some kind to share. If you are in need of childcare, please contact the church office (763 662 2048 or sslcoffice@izoom.net) and we'll make sure that is provided.