

August Newsletter



214 Harvey St, PO Box 98 Viborg, SD 57070 • ph: 605.326.5577 • www.oslcvib.org • oslc.office@oslcvib.org

From The Pastors Desk: On Prayer

Do you ever find yourself not knowing what to pray for or how to pray? Do you get uncomfortable when asked to pray in front of people, even if it's just family? How about when you are praying alone? Do you feel as though if you don't pray for enough people or if you pray for yourself you are being selfish?

If you answered yes to any or all of those questions, you are not alone! We are taught various prayers as children, but as we grow older, for some reason we feel the need to make the prayers more complicated. We might feel as though if the prayer isn't using big words or isn't long enough then it isn't pleasing to God.

Not only do we fear that our prayer is not good enough for God, we also fear that we are praying too much for ourselves! When want to pray for God's help, but we are trained to think "well, so and so has it worse than me, so I really shouldn't be complaining..." even though needing help is not complaining! In fact, God wants us to cry to Him! He wants to be the first place that we turn to.

And yet, there are still times when we know we should be praying, but we do not have the words for what is on our hearts. We sit there with our mind

wandering thinking "God, I'm sorry, I got distracted in my prayer" or "God, I don't even know what I am praying for."

Here is what you need to know: God doesn't care about the length or eloquence of your prayer. There

isn't a magic word that needs to be said. Rather, God gives us the Holy Spirit to act on our behalf so that when we do not have the right words (and that is often), the Holy Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words to express.

God knows our hearts, He knows our minds. We absolutely need to continue to pray, but rest assured, your prayers are answered whether you have your eyes wide open driving down the road, or you are on your knees with your hands folded before bed. Whether we have a proper, formal prayer, or we are at a place where all we have are groanings that cannot even be put into words. May you know

that God hears you. God is for you. God has called you His very own.

This is most certainly true.

Pastor Max Whitehead

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

~ Romans 8:26-28

August Calendar

Sunday, August 03
9:00 AM **Worship Service @Bethany**
 10:00 AM Joint Meeting
 1:00 PM Bible Study @ Bethany
 7:30 PM VCIS

Wednesday, August 06
 2:00 PM Bible Study (Parsons Ins)
 7:30 PM Council Mtg

Sunday, August 10
Worship Service @Bethany
 7:30 PM VCIS

Wednesday, August 13
 2:00 PM Bible Study (Parsons Ins)

Sunday, August 17
9:00 AM **Worship Service @ OSLC**
 7:30 PM VCIS

Wednesday, August 20
 2:00 PM Bible Study (Parsons Ins)

Sunday, August 24
10:30 AM **Worship Service @ SVLC**
 (150th Anniversary)
 7:30 PM VCIS

Wednesday, August 27
 2:00 PM Bible Study (Parsons Ins)

Sunday, August 31
9:00 AM **Worship Service @ OSLC**
 7:30 PM VCIS

Committee's of the Month

The committee reads Scriptures on Sundays each month. Confirmed youth of members are included. The list of duties is on the bulletin board.

August
 Fred and Janet Holmberg

September
 Loren & Michelle Johnson
 James Christopherson
 Ellie Whitehead

October
 Matt and Denise Graves
 Jon and Krista Schaeffer
 Matt and Sharon Wirth

August Scripture Readings

August 03 - Hosea 11:1-11, Psalm 49:1-12, Colossians 3:1-11, Luke 12:13-21
 August 10 - Isaiah 1:1, 10-20, Psalm 33:12-22, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, Luke 12:32-40
 August 17 - Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 82, Hebrews 11:29-12:2, Luke 12:49-56
 August 24 - Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 103:1-8, Hebrews 12:18-29, Luke 13:10-17
 August 31 - Jeremiah 2:4-13, Psalm 112, Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16, Luke 14:1, 7-14



Worship Helpers

Sunday, August 17
 Reader Michelle Johnson
 Acolyte/Communion Helper Volunteer
 Live Stream Godwin
 Organist/Pianist Melanie Parsons

Sunday, August 31
 Reader Janet Holmberg
 Acolyte/Communion Helper Volunteer
 Live Stream Godwin
 Organist/Pianist Praise Band



Beginning September 7, 2025 worship service time will change to 10:30 AM. Please adjust your calendars.

TIME TO CHANGE



Looking Ahead To September



Wednesday, September 03

2:00 PM Bible Study
 7:00 PM VCIS
 7:30 PM Council Mtg

Wednesday, September 10

2:00 PM Bible Study
 7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, September 7

10:30 AM **Worship Service @ OSLC**
 9:00 AM Rally Sunday for Sunday School
 10:15 AM Bible Study & Coffee
 1:00 PM Bible Study (Bethany Church)

Sunday, September 14

10:30 AM **Worship Service @ Bethany**



!!! EMERGENCY NEED !!!

THE FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF ALL GROCERY ITEMS!

Anything you can contribute would be very much appreciated. We do have a fridge and freezer for cold storage items such as meats and cheeses. Thank you so very much in advance!



The Luther League served Root beer floats Friday and Sunday night over Danish Days and brought in \$524, which we use to help send kids to camp.



AS ONE BODY WE ARE THE CHURCH

CHECK-IN MEETING

The OSLC/Bethany Joint Committee will be meeting after worship on August 3, 2025 to discuss the past 2 months as well as future thoughts and concerns.

This meeting is open to both congregations to sit in on to voice any concerns.



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Please Scan the QRCode



Viborg Lutheran Youth Ministries

CONFIRMATION - JRVCIS - VCIS

CONFIRMATION - GRADES 6-8

5:30 Meal, 6:00 Time to Learn

Nothing new has developed in the past month for this group, so I will repost this call for services:

A new development we had this year was also to ask for you, the congregation, to help serve our students supper. We will continue with this, and will add a little more to it: if you could stay and help serve the kids the meal that you provide, that would be wonderful! Feel free to get a group together to serve the kids. Things are always more fun when done as a group.

*If you want to provide a meal but cannot stay and serve it, that is okay too!

Here is a link to a sign up sheet. If you have trouble accessing it or are not comfortable with the internet, text this number: (605) 368-1424 and I will get you marked down. The information we are looking for is: What day, what will you be providing, can you stay to help serve?

Confirmation Supper Link: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dtzeuljkhzffQvySZfBsL2ePGCS-kVyUnM9ol10R3IA/edit?gid=0#gid=0>

JRVCIS Grades 1-6

Nothing new has developed in the past month for this group, so I will repost this call for services:

Similar to the confirmation meal situation, I am asking for your consideration to help feed the kids. Everybody tends to play and listen better when they have had a little snack! So I have created a spreadsheet to help serve our kids. If you could stay and help serve the kids the snack that you provide, that would be wonderful! Feel free to get a group together to serve the kids. Things are always more fun when done as a group.

*If you want to provide a meal but cannot stay and serve it, that is okay too!

Here is a link to a sign up sheet. If you have trouble accessing it or are not comfortable with the internet, text this number: (605) 368-1424 and I will get you marked down. The information we are looking for is:

What day, what will you be providing, can you stay to help serve?

JrVCIS Snack Sign Up: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dtzeuljkhzffQvySZfBsL2ePGCS-kVyUnM9ol10R3IA/edit?usp=sharing>

VCIS

Grades 8-12 ~ Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00

In the past month, we have had 3 fundraising events! At the time of writing this article, the kids just wrapped up 2 of them.

On the Friday evening of Danish Days, we served Frikadeller, potatoes, and aeblespyramide (apple pyramid)! We had great feedback - people loved it all! We had about 28 guests come by and had 7 kids serving.

On the Sunday morning of Danish Days, we served a breakfast right after the community worship in the park. We served pancakes, eggs, bacon, and sausage to 125 guests! We had 9 kids helping serve along with 11 parents (and grandparents). This was the first time that we had done this event, but I am excited for us to do it again next year!

Thank you for your continued support. Keep your eyes and ears peeled for our trip destination! Registration opens for trips on August 1, so we will make a decision soon after.

Over the past year, the upperclassmen were usually pretty good at cleaning up whatever leftovers there were from the Confirmation supper. Moving forward, I will put it out there for another person/group to serve the VCIS! It can give us another opportunity for youth/congregational group communication and bonding. Here is a link if you'd be interested in signing up!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kRQ5L2Y8JFwPsJ9IGLYpFSzAUeMnSjto1sMKM4ResXU/edit?usp=sharing>

Thank you for the continued support of all of these groups! It's been fun for me to get to know these kids and to continue to grow the various programs. I am excited to keep growing this ministry!



Spring Valley Church 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Bring your family and friends as we honor the past and embrace the future of Spring Valley. Catered meal will be served after service by Tony's Catering. Tickets for meal are \$10 per person, children ages 3 and below are free. To order tickets contact Faydra Christensen @ 605-661-4150 or faydrac70@gmail.com. Tickets purchased after Aug 10th will be \$15.

AUG | 24 | 10:30 AM

Spring Valley Lutheran Church
44707 289th St, Viborg, SD 57070