

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN'S *July Voice* 2022

Freedom Festival Service

July 3 @ 9:30 am

Sunday School @ 10:45

Holy Smokers Lunch, and Pat Gavin & the Buckaroo Band @ NOON

Kids' Water Slide & Moonwalk sponsored by Men Alive!

(Bring your swimsuit & towel)



*Live as people who
are free, not using
your freedom as a
cover-up for evil,
but living as
servants of God.*

1 Peter 2:16 ESV



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Article XXVII, Concerning Monastic Vows, is a follow-up to the church customs and traditions mentioned in AC XV. In that article, it stated that monastic vows were one of several customs which were abused in the Roman Church, and those abuses are taken up here in AC XXVII. Once again, the main concern was that the teaching about vows was obscuring the Gospel message of salvation by grace.

Since this is one of the longest articles in the Augsburg Confession, we will not reprint it here in its entirety, but I do encourage you to go and read it for yourself. The following is a summary of the contents of the article.

Lines 1-2: Introduction. Three main considerations: 1) How do people view monastic vows; 2) what is monastic life like; and 3) what about monastic vows is contrary to the Word of God? (and even the church). It is pointed out that monastic life in itself is not bad, but it has been corrupted by work-righteousness.

Lines 3-10: Youth and ignorance. Many of those who took monastic vows made them in their youth or in ignorance, without thinking the promise through thoroughly (not unlike Luther himself). Many people would put young people in monasteries in order to assure that they would be provided for, although monastic life was very severe. This was displeasing to many.

Lines 11-14: Vows were considered meritorious. Once again it is demonstrated how the Roman Church was undermining the work of Christ by teaching that certain works merit forgiveness of sin and justification before God. Monastic vows were claimed to be equal and even more beneficial than Baptism, and that through monastic life one could obtain more merit before God than in any other calling.

Lines 15-17: Past advantages of monasteries. In the past, monasteries were used to instruct men in the teachings of the Bible, from which pastors and teachers would come. But now they do not teach the Bible, instead, they teach that monastic life is a state of perfection and is a means of earning God's grace.

Lines 18-21: Vows of celibacy. This was taken up fully in AC XXIII but is mentioned again here because of its connection to vows. It is pointed out that forced celibacy is contrary to the command of God.

Lines 22-23: Vows and God's command. No vow can revoke the commands of God. Vows made which are contrary to the command and will of God are not binding.

Lines 24-26: Dispensations. The church released certain people from their vows in political situations, so they should be willing and able to free others from vows for spiritual reasons as well.

Lines 27-30: Vows must be voluntary. The Roman Church insists on forcing people to keep their vows even if they did not make the vow voluntarily. Rather, "Therefore, it is not fair to insist so rigorously on the obligation. Everyone knows that taking a vow that is not made freely and deliberately is against the very nature of a true vow."

Lines 31-35: Vows in youth and marriage. Several church canons annul the vows of those made in their youth. Since most people took these vows in their youth, this is excuse enough for them to abandon those vows. Marriages should not be dissolved because of vows.

Lines 36-43: Earning righteousness is contrary to the Gospel. Anything that is done to earn God's grace is contrary to the Gospel - even more so when they are man-made rules. Instead, "Righteousness comes by faith to those who believe that they are received by God into grace for Christ's sake." Such ungodly vows which seek to earn God's grace are null and void since they lead people into sin. Those who teach that we are justified by vows have fallen from God's grace as Paul says in Galatians 5:4.

Lines 44-48: Elevating works to a means of achieving justification. It was bad enough that the church taught that monastic vows and life earned forgiveness of sins, but on top of that they also taught that these good works could also be applied to others. Exalting works in this way resulted in obscuring the righteousness of faith in Christ.

Lines 49-60: The harmful results of teaching perfection. First, teaching that monks alone can achieve a state of perfection obscures the commands of God and true service to Him. True perfection is not found in what we wear or how we act, but in trusting in Christ with our whole hearts. This leads the common people to think that they are not as good as those who have taken monastic vows, and has caused some to abandon their families and responsibilities to enter monastic life. Instruction has been given that this is not serving God but is disobeying His commands in order to keep the commands of men.

Lines 61-62: Conclusion. There are four errors connected to monastic vows: 1) vows justify people before God; 2) vows offer perfection; 3) vows are the way to fulfill the commands of God and the church; and 4) vows are meritorious beyond what God demands. Since this is all false, such vows are useless and are of no value.

Once again, we see how the doctrine of justification by grace through faith in Christ is corrupted and even destroyed by the teachings of the Roman Church (also in connection with their man-made customs). Paul writes: “But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise, grace would no longer be grace” (Romans 11:6).

In Christ’s Service and Yours,
Pastor Krieg



Life With God - New Member Classes:

Our adult information class covers the most important teachings of the Bible as they are believed, taught and confessed in this Lutheran Congregation. The class is designed for anyone considering membership in Our Savior Lutheran Church and for members of the congregation who would like a great review of basic Bible doctrine. It should be particularly interesting for both member and non-member school parents to familiarize yourself with what your kids are learning in class every day. **Classes are on Mondays from 7:00-8:30pm, and will continue through August.** Babysitting and refreshments are provided.

Nativity Changes Are Underway...

This year, the Nativity event will be making the transition from drive-through to **walk-through**. We will have golf-cart tour options for those with mobility issues, but we believe that it’s important to interact face-to-face with the people who come to us for this event. Because of this, the Nativity will be a lot more involved this year, so...

We need your help!

This needs to be a congregational outreach to the community, so please consider participating, as the Body of Christ, as we reach out to those in our community who God leads to us.

Look for more information to follow!



GO VBS Landed at OSL June 13 through June 15

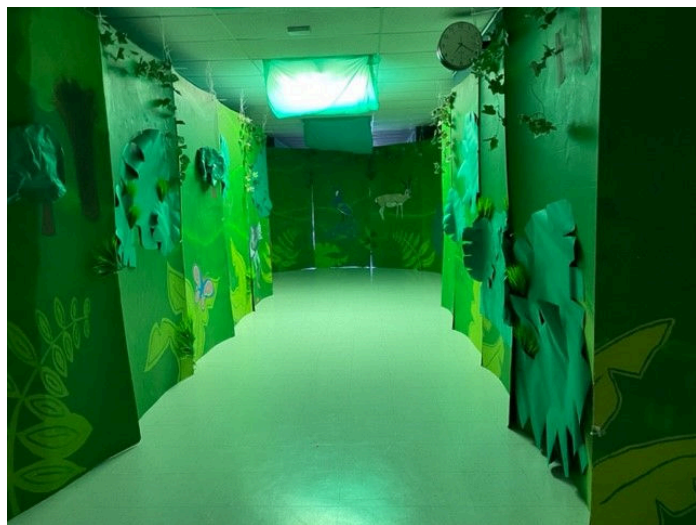
GO was all about how we at OSL fulfill Christ's last command to GO and make disciples of all nations!

Each night kids boarded a plane bound for missions supported by OSL around the world. Pastor Cholak was their tour guide. First it was to the Dominican Republic and then to the high elevations of Kenya. The kids also made 167 hygiene kits to be distributed by missions in the Dominican Republic as well as here at home.

Pastor Krieg led the adult class through the meaning of the great Commission and our duties as Christians to share the Gospel.

Families ate together each night and enjoyed crafts as well as a doggone good puppet show. 151 RSVP'd for the event.

Andy Adams





Dear OSL Church Members,

We have completed the 2021-2022 school year with God's grace and provisions. We are grateful for the days, months, and terms when God gave us the ability to serve 303 OSL scholars and their families, sharing the Good News we believe, teach, and confess about our Lord Jesus Christ and His saving work on the cross.

We are now in preparation mode for the 2022-2023 school year. Thank you for the opportunity to again joyfully serve God and you by teaching, nurturing, and caring for the young people of God's creation.

We are blessed to have Miss Melissa Theis (grade 3) from Immanuel-Heights, Mrs. Rosalie Chapman (PreK) from Epiphany, and Mrs. Beth Prestwood (K) from Amarillo, TX who have agreed to join our staff and church family this summer. Ms. Chelsie Pigeon and Mrs. Amanda Crabtree will serve as our Preschool teachers this fall. Mr. Alec Kemnitz, formerly with Trinity-Downtown, will serve as our P.E. teacher. Thanks be to God for these dedicated Lutheran educators who have joyfully accepted to teach our young scholars. We are currently searching for teachers for grade 4, Kindergarten, and Prekindergarten. Please encourage any interested people to contact me at kthoelke@oslschool.org sending a resume.

We are also pleased to have Mrs. Diane White, who has been training with Mrs. Straker this year, as our School Manager, and Mrs. Maria Lozano who will serve as our School Registrar/School Secretary this fall. She has also transitioned with Mrs. Byers over the last month of school.

Our Assistant Principals attended the initial meetings in St. Louis for their SLED-22 program. SLED (School Leadership Development) is the LCMS year-long development program to form our school leaders. We have several teachers attending our CCLE (Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education) conference in Ft. Wayne this month with Mr. Kemnitz and Mr. Morrissey presenting, while we have four teachers attending the Memoria Press Highlands Latin School conference and the rest of our teachers attending virtually from our campus. Our administration team will also attend the Elevate conference to obtain greater understanding of the uses of our School Information System (RenWeb/FACTS). Mrs. Kemnitz, School Accountant, will also present at the conference. We are pleased to have these opportunities for growth and development of our teachers and administration team. Thank you for your support of these programs.



Mrs. Cherington, Ms. Lunsford, and Mrs. Payne are all pursuing Colloquy as commissioned ministers of the LCMS. We look forward to more teachers joining this program to continue to elevate our teachers' credentials. Every teacher has a goal of completing CCLE teacher certification by Summer of 2024, as well.

You will also see temporary buildings arrive on campus this month. Two of our Kindergarten classrooms and our two first grade classrooms will be housed in these buildings this year as we continue to plan and accommodate for the growth the Lord has given us. These buildings will be near the ECE building to ensure that similar age levels and groupings will be in proximity of each other as we will have a Kindergarten classroom in the ECE building.

God has been gracious to us and continues to provide for our school and the needs of our teachers and scholars. Please continue to pray for your administration team and teachers as we prepare for the opening of the 2022-2023 school year on August 17.

In His Service,

Kate Thaelke

principal

"To the Glory of God and the Salvation of Man"

Baptized Into Christ



Charlotte Piper-Joy Kemnitz was baptized into Christ, June 12! Her parents are Nathan & Brittney Kemnitz, and her grandparents Dirk & Sharon Kemnitz are her sponsors.

Membership Changes

As of the Elders Meeting, June 21, 2022

INCOMING –

Baptism:

Corin Lewis Kauffman – May 29, 2022

Charlotte Piper-Joy Kemnitz – June 12, 2022

Wedding:

Cynthia Crabtree & Sebastian Ibarguengytia

OUTGOING –

Transfer out:

Dalton & Deanne Noack to Bethel Lutheran, Bryan TX

Vern Wuensche to Immanuel Lutheran, Houston

Self Exclusion:

Angel & Melissa Reyes and Family

Power Lift Recliner

The family of Ray Hobradsch is looking for a good home for the power lift recliner that he bought in 2018, still in excellent condition. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Sandy Leger: 713-376-9783, or email:

rickyandsandy1228@att.net

Memorials:

James Oberndorfer

Thelma Oberndorfer

David & Doris Theiss

Paul & Gertrude Stringer

Kenneth Stringer (School)

Missions:

Fritsche Mission

Norman & Debbie Adams

Laura Boyd

Lyle & Karen Schmidt

Lutherans in Africa – May Family

OSL [LWML] Night Circle

Pueblo Nuevo – DR.....

Alan & Sandy Fritsche

Wokoma – Africa.....

Andrew & Jocelyn Bender

Laura Boyd

Randall & Pamela Kirk

Kevin & Sherry Larson

Kara Rhode

Frederick Theilacker, Jr.



- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 01 Kimberly Cezeaux
Melvin Miller
Bobby Nichols
Greyson Williams | 12 Giuliana Bush
Marijn Lawyer
Alex Payne
Allie Synnott | 22 Donna Ginn
Thelma Oberndorfer
Luke Schoppe
Gene Zoch |
| 02 Stephen Gbur | 13 Greg Biehle
Sharon Petree | 23 Mikayla Bukenya
Jordan Jones
Erik Whiting |
| 03 Annette Coon
Jimmy Synnott | 14 Samuel Leaton
Benjamin Witt | 24 Carol Bowers
Patrick Downie
Sandy Fritsche
Jeff Skweres |
| 04 August Baughman
Gilda Candella | 15 Kyle Aisenbrey
Brenda Jones
James Kriegel
Trace Kucish
Paul Proske | 25 Jack Gobrogge
Joy Lunsford |
| 05 Nancy Boddicker | 16 Sandra Seyffert
Iris Willis | 26 Max Banes
Clayton Wilbanks |
| 06 Blake Crabtree
Alex Pollock | 17 Garrett Gerard
Scarlett Heefner | 27 Bianca Williams |
| 07 Steve Caka
Vanessa Cook | 18 Carmina Contreras
Jill Gerard
Abraham Priddy | 28 Colin Noble |
| 08 Mikayla Eifert
Mandy Temple
Sonya Whiting | 19 Olivia Lucas
Lisa Petree | 29 Lucas Downie
Doris Hackemack |
| 09 Kristie Fisher
Samuel Gerard
Everett Tannert | 20 Julie Hester
Roger Synnott
Jaide Thomas
Joi Thomas | 30 Edward Witt
Zoey Burge |
| 10 Audrey Cooper
Erich Eifert
Andrew Manriquez | 21 Kimberly Eifert
Robert Noack
Lorie Priddy
Stephanie Savoie | 31 Sandra El-Gamil
Henry Holeman
Lee Kauffman
Mallory Key
Kelley Sebesta |
| 11 Samatha Cox | | |



Church Staff Directory

Dr Laurence White, Senior Pastor
lwhite@osl.cc

Rev Kelly Krieg, Assistant Pastor
kkrieg@osl.cc

Rev Steven Cholak, Assistant Pastor
scholak@osl.cc

Jeff Armstrong, Minister of Music
jarmstrong@oslschool.org

Kate Thaelke, Principal
kthaelke@oslschool.org

Julie Hester, Office Manager
jhester@osl.cc

Barbara Mushinski, Publicist
bmushinski@osl.cc

Sarah Baughman, Office Assistant
sbaughman@osl.cc

Donna Hebert, Accountant
dhebert@osl.cc

Jeanene Lunsford, AsstPrin, Ath Dir
jlunsford@oslschool.org

Lynette Cherington, AsstPrin, ECE Dir
lcherington@oslschool.org

Diane White, School Manager
dwhite@oslschool.org

Ed Witt, Maintenance Supervisor
ewitt@oslschool.org

Worship Sundays at 9:30am
Bible Classes at 8:15 & 10:45am

Church: 713-290-9087

Fax: 713-290-0224

Web: www.OSL.cc


School: 713-290-8277

School Fax: 713-290-0850

5000 W Tidwell Rd, Houston, TX 77091

Summer Church Office Hours:
9:00 am-4 pm, Monday-Friday

JULY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8:00am Kidventure	2 8:30am Men Alive-A101 
3 8:15am Bible Class 9:30am Festival Matins 10:45am Sunday School 12:00pm Freedom Festival- Food, Music, Fun! 	4 Independence Day- Office Closed 	5 8:00am Kidventure 7:00pm Church Council (rescheduled)	6 6:30am Men's Bible Study-BC 8:00am Kidventure 10:00am Bible Class-BC 12:00pm Bulletin Deadline	7 8:00am Kidventure 3:00pm Prayer Request printing deadline 7:00pm Lutheran Confessions Bible Study Group-BC	8 8:00am Kidventure 9:00am Joseph's Guild of Colors-LWML	9
10 8:15am Bible Class 9:30am Communion 10:45am Sunday School	11 8:00am Kidventure 9:00am Joseph's Guild of Colors-LWML 7:00pm Adult Information Class-BC 7:00pm Young Adults-YR	12 8:00am Kidventure 8:30am Braille 7:00pm Parish Ed mtg-YR	13 6:30am Men's Bible Study-BC 8:00am Kidventure 10:00am Bible Class-BC 12:00pm Bulletin Deadline	14 8:00am Kidventure 3:00pm Prayer Request printing deadline	15 Newsletter Deadline 8:00am Kidventure 12:00pm Young at Heart-BC 7:00pm Fellowship-Astros Game 	16
17 8:15am Bible Class 9:30am Matins 10:45am Sunday School <i>Higher Things Youth Gathering</i>	18 8:00am Kidventure 7:00pm Adult Information Class-BC 7:00pm Young Adults-YR <i>Higher Things Youth Gathering</i>	19 8:00am Kidventure 6:30pm Trustees 7:00pm Elders mtg-BC 7:00pm Night Circle-FR <i>Higher Things Youth Gathering</i>	20 6:30am Men's Bible Study-BC 8:00am Kidventure 10:00am Bible Class-BC 12:00pm Bulletin Deadline <i>Higher Things Youth Gathering</i>	21 8:00am Kidventure 3:00pm Prayer Request printing deadline 6:00pm Evangelism Meeting - BC 7:00pm Lutheran Confessions Bible Study Group-BC <i>Higher Things Youth Gathering</i>	22 8:00am Kidventure <i>Higher Things Youth Gathering</i>	23 <i>Higher Things Youth Gathering</i>
24 8:15am Bible Class 9:30am Communion 10:45am Sunday School 4:30pm Jr Youth Fusion-A101	25 8:00am Kidventure 7:00pm Adult Information Class-BC 7:00pm Young Adults-YR	26 8:00am Kidventure 7:00pm Parochial Ed-A102E	27 6:30am Men's Bible Study-BC 8:00am Kidventure 10:00am Bible Class-BC 12:00pm Bulletin Deadline	28 8:00am Kidventure 3:00pm Prayer Request printing deadline	29 8:00am Kidventure	30
31 8:15am Bible Class 9:30am Matins-Baptism 10:45am Sunday School	1 6:30pm Potter's Vessel-FR 7:00pm Adult Information Class-BC 7:00pm Young Adults-YR	2 10:00am Circle of Grace-FR 7:00pm Church Council-BC	3 6:30am Men's Bible Study-BC 10:00am Bible Class-BC 12:00pm Bulletin Deadline	4 3:00pm Prayer Request printing deadline 7:00pm Lutheran Confessions Bible Study Group-BC	5	6 8:30am Men Alive-A101 <i>10:30am Bon Appetit</i>

A=Gym/Cafeteria • B=Early Childhood Ctr • C=Classrooms • BC=Bible Class Room • FR=Family Room • *Italics*=not @ OSL • YR=Youth Room

Those to Serve in July 2022

Acolytes	07/03/22	9:30 AM	Patrick Downie / Summer Morrissey
Carts	07/03/22	9:30 AM	Downie Team
Elders	07/03/22	9:30 AM	Alan Fritsche / Brian Nitsch / Mel Derong / Channing Wood
Evangelism	07/03/22	9:30 AM	Team 3 James
Greeters	07/03/22	9:30 AM	Team 5
Sound	07/03/22	9:30 AM	Greenwood
Ushers	07/03/22	9:30 AM	Gobrogge Team
Acolytes	07/10/22	9:30 AM	Blake Farr / Nathan Russ
Altar Guild	07/10/22	9:30 AM	Amanda Crabtree Team
Carts	07/10/22	9:30 AM	Kriegel Team
Comm Asst.	07/10/22	9:30 AM	Alan Fritsche / Mel Derong / James Kriegel / Brian Nitsch / Channing Wood
Elders	07/10/22	9:30 AM	Alan Fritsche / Brian Nitsch / Mel Derong / Channing Wood
Evangelism	07/10/22	9:30 AM	Team 4 Karl
Greeters	07/10/22	9:30 AM	Team 6
Sound	07/10/22	9:30 AM	Blake
Ushers	07/10/22	9:30 AM	Lehr Team
Acolytes	07/17/22	9:30 AM	Colleen Crabtree / Abigail White
Carts	07/17/22	9:30 AM	Gavin Team
Elders	07/17/22	9:30 AM	Alan Fritsche / Brian Nitsch / Mel Derong / Channing Wood
Evangelism	07/17/22	9:30 AM	Team 5 Al
Greeters	07/17/22	9:30 AM	Team 7
Sound	07/17/22	9:30 AM	Whiting
Ushers	07/17/22	9:30 AM	Halbert Team
Acolytes	07/24/22	9:30 AM	Anthony Cooper / Jude Morgan
Altar Guild	07/24/22	9:30 AM	Clarissa Worthing Team
Carts	07/24/22	9:30 AM	Gerard Team
Comm Asst.	07/24/22	9:30 AM	Alan Fritsche / Mel Derong / James Kriegel / Brian Nitsch / Channing Wood
Elders	07/24/22	9:30 AM	Alan Fritsche / Brian Nitsch / Mel Derong / Channing Wood
Evangelism	07/24/22	9:30 AM	Team 1 Garry
Greeters	07/24/22	9:30 AM	Team 8
Sound	07/24/22	9:30 AM	Wilbanks/Whiting
Ushers	07/24/22	9:30 AM	Downie Team
Acolytes	07/31/22	9:30 AM	Katherine Johnson / Mary Johnson
Carts	07/31/22	9:30 AM	Adams Team
Elders	07/31/22	9:30 AM	Alan Fritsche / Brian Nitsch / Mel Derong / Channing Wood
Evangelism	07/31/22	9:30 AM	Team 2 Ken
Greeters	07/31/22	9:30 AM	Team 9
Sound	07/31/22	9:30 AM	Greenwood
Ushers	07/31/22	9:30 AM	Gobrogge Team



OSL Life Team

The Life Team at OSL is now 15 strong and growing! Most completed the training during FAST class and few have completed it on their own.

We've adopted as our mission statement: *The Life Team at Our Savior exists to equip our church to be Gospel-motivated voices for life.* To that end we've been reviewing the programs that OSL has been supporting and new programs that we would like add.

The "life iceberg" that you hopefully have seen highlights several of these areas. For OSL, we're looking at expanding into life apologetics (how do defend our position on life). We'd also like to make better use of the fetal models as they are very effective in showing that "it really is a baby." Other topics that we might consider are end of life decisions, adoptions, ministering to families with still-born children, and identifying pro-life/pro-family businesses.

If you're interested in learning more, please contact anyone pictured here, or Bruce Blake (713-459-7508). See our OSL Sanctity of Life Page, <https://www.osl.cc/sanctity-of-life>



Sailing For The DR

Make a \$250 donation to OSL (memo=DR, Pueblo Nuevo) and get a 4 hour sail on Galveston Bay (up to 4 people).

All proceeds to benefit mission work in the Dominican Republic.

Contact Bruce Blake with questions or to pick a date.

713-459-7508

Our Savior Lutheran Church & School

5000 W. Tidwell Rd.
Houston TX 77091-4633

Serving families for Jesus Christ



Fellowship Astros Game Friday, July 15 @ 7:00pm

Join your OSL family at MinuteMaid Park for our OSL faith and family outing as we cheer on the Astros as they take on the Oakland Athletics. Cost is \$20 per ticket. Go to www.osl.cc/astros for more information, to sign up, and to pay.