



# Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Serving God's Community through  
Worship, Outreach and Fellowship

**September/October 2025**

Sunday School for adults 8:45-9:45am  
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Church Office: 540-382-2223 / [OSLCoffice@oslc-cburg.org](mailto:OSLCoffice@oslc-cburg.org)

**Weekly office hours: Tuesday - Thursday 10am-3pm or by appointment**

Church Website: [www.oslc-cburg.org](http://www.oslc-cburg.org)

## Gatherings Resume!

**Please join OSLC members and friends**

**Adult Sunday School** begins on Sunday, September 7, at 8:45 am.

We will start the year with a focus on the Psalms, using Praying the Psalms, by Walter Brueggemann to guide our exploration and discussion. Brueggemann uses "engaging scripture and the life of the spirit" as a way to encourage our practice of using the Psalms more intentionally in our spiritual journey. We will meet in classroom three and the book will be available. Please join us. --John Hess

**The Book Club** will meet Wednesday, September 17, at 1:30 pm to discuss *The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, by Sherman Alexie. All are welcome! --Marilyn Zeckoski

**LT2 (Learning to Live Together)** will meet Wednesday, September 10, at 1:30. Join this small group in the Meeting Room for a discussion of issues and options for Learning to Live Together in this polarized period. Contact John Hess or Marilyn Zeckoski for more information.

### PMO Resumes September 2!

- Our Goal: To provide a safe and nurturing setting where Social Skills Support is provided to preschool age children through the teachings of Jesus. Instruction will include bible stories, songs, and prayer. This aligns with our mission at OSLC - to serve God's community through worship, outreach, and fellowship.
- Teachers: Lorin Crowder, Nikki Gibson, Brittany Smith.  
Substitutes - Betsy Alden, Lauren Black, Amy Greer-Knowles, Abigail Adams, Jeanette Wiggert
- Enrollment for September: 8 students, working on adding 2 additional students.
- September 2: Preschool class begins for our group of 3-year-olds.

- September Themes for Preschool
  - Sept. 2 - Back to School
  - Sept. 9 - Apples
  - Sept. 16 - Farm/farm animals
  - Sept. 23 - Fall/harvest
  - Sept. 30 - Leaves
- September 21: PMO Sunday. We invite PMO families to join us at church on Sunday, September 21 at 10am. During this service, the children will remain in the sanctuary with their families until the children's sermon. At that time, Pastor Joel will talk with the children and the students will sing a favorite song. Then, Lorin and another congregant will take the children to our PMO classroom for a craft and free play. We will return to the sanctuary during communion, where they will receive a blessing from the Pastor and then return to their own families. After service, cake will be served in the fellowship hall.
- October 11 - PMO students are invited to our Harvest Festival.
- Thank you to Joanne Jackson for providing lovely crafts once per month, and to Jo Burroughs for sharing caterpillars. This offers enrichment to the program!

--Lorin Crowder

## Choir Camp

- Are you looking for a place to worship, pray, and grow in faith through music?
- Sing with us at Choir Camp! We'll save you a seat. **Saturday, September 13, 10am – 3pm.**

REGISTER by emailing [oslcdom@oslc-cburg.org](mailto:oslcdom@oslc-cburg.org).

## Pierogi-Making Event!

Do you want to learn to make pierogis? Sign up in the Fellowship Hall to come **September 13 from 2-5pm** to find out how! The eating will commence about 5pm; even if you don't come to make them, you are welcome to come eat them!

## Christian Education Opportunities

**Wednesdays: 10:30-noon with Pastor Antley.** Explore the weekly Bible lessons for upcoming Sunday worship in the meeting room.

**September 7, Sunday 8:45-9:45:** Lay-led Bible study in the meeting room

## Important Community Events

### The League of Women Voters and NAACP host local candidate Forums

Local chapters of the non-partisan League of Women Voters and NAACP hosted a Blacksburg forum for Mayor Thursday, August 2, 6:30-8pm. It was live streamed on Channel WSLs, channel 10 TV website. The council candidates will be featured **Thursday, Sept. 28, from 6:30-8:00 pm** at the Municipal Building. The Christiansburg forums follow a similar

schedule: with Mayor candidates on September 4 and council candidates the following Thursday, September 11, all at 6:30-8pm at Christiansburg Town Hall. Montgomery County forums: for Supervisors is Thursday, September 18 and School Board September 25, also from 6:30-8pm at the MC Government Center.

Early voting starts September 19. **This is your opportunity to get direct experience with these local candidates to inform your choices!!**

## **Fellowship Update**

**Thank you all for the delicious contributions to potluck meals!!**

Sign up for a weekly post-worship fellowship on the handy form on the kitchen island as you join the congregation each Sunday. Each week one of the Fellowship Committee is available to walk with you. The point person assigned can be found on Kay's blog: <https://oslccburgfellowship.blogspot.com/2023/01/minutes-from-january-12-2023-fellowship.html>.

## **Love fresh herbs?**

Stop by the raised herb bed and clip some to add special flavor to your home cooking! The basil is amazing!

## **Make plans now to participate in our outreach ministries!**

### **Social Ministry Updates**

#### **Celebrate 15 Seasons of To Our House**

To Our House will hold a celebration recognizing their volunteers and supporters who have provided selfless dedication and invaluable resources over the years.

The event will be held at THE HUB in the New River Community Action Offices

206 Third Avenue

Radford, VA

on Thursday, October 2, 4-6pm; hors d'oeuvres will be served

#### **To Our House at OSLC in 2025**

TOH is a program that provides overnight winter shelter to homeless adults in the New River Valley. The program's guests stay in churches in the Christiansburg and Blacksburg areas that have the facilities to house them. In addition to being a warm place to sleep, the program provides a hot evening meal, breakfast, and a bagged lunch.

The season runs from November 1, 2025, through March 28, 2026.

OSLC will house the guests for the first 4 weeks of the season, from November 1 through November 29.

OSLC will be the host church for two of those weeks, during which we will provide the meals and volunteers.

Other churches or civic organizations will serve as hosts for the other two weeks and provide the meals and volunteers.

The two weeks that OSLC will be hosting have not been set yet. It takes many volunteers for this important ministry to work. Look for volunteer sign up lists to be posted by early October.

--Jan Jackson ([janjojerem@gmail.com](mailto:janjojerem@gmail.com), 540-320-2582)

### **Harvest Festival! Saturday, October 11**

Mark your calendar for the Harvest Festival! Saturday, October 11, 10 am until 2pm.

Pumpkins, music, games and more! We will need some volunteers to bring this community outreach event to our neighbors and will be sharing additional information soon.

**Angela Correa-Becker and Kay Johnson**

### **God's Work. Our Hands. September 6-7**

Our first service is a workday at Habitat for Humanity's ReStore (1675 N. Franklin Street, Christiansburg) from 10am to 2pm, LUNCH PROVIDED! During this time, we will be working in the ReStore warehouse preparing the space to create a woodworking workshop for groups in the community.

We will get dirty and there will be some working with heavy items, so be sure to dress appropriately. Folks are welcome to bring their own protective gear, such as work gloves and eye protection. **Prior to September 6**, each individual must complete the online volunteer registration. Watch for more information!

The second **God's Work. Our Hands offering** is a gathering at Our Saviour Lutheran Church on Sunday, September 7, at 2pm. We will be packing care kits for those experiencing homelessness, creating tie blankets for use within the NRV community to those in need, and a short time of blessing and prayer over these gifts together.

### **What can you do to help?**

Show up on September 7!

Donate items below:

#### **Care Kit Items:**

Personal Hygiene and Toiletry items  
(including feminine hygiene items)

Bar soaps

Washcloths

First aid supplies

Small flashlights

Gloves

Rain ponchos

Socks

Sunscreen

Can Openers

Gallon-sized Ziplock bags

**Tie Blanket Items:**

Fabric Scissors to cut blankets

Fleece Materials (50in x 60in)

## **Updates on Continuing Outreach Ministries**

**The OSLC Food Ministry Program**

During the past month the OSLC Food Ministry Program provided food items to the 7 group homes for adults, and the 4 schools for special needs students operating during the summer by enCircle (previously known as Virginia Lutheran Services). During the month of July \$1550 was donated to the program, which then purchased over 1200 pounds of food items. Based on the congregation donations through July 31, the year 2025 will exceed **\$25,000**. This is projected to purchase almost **9 tons of food** items for the “Little Free Pantry,” MCEAP food pantry, and enCircle Group Homes and Special Need Schools in 2025.

Copies of ***“An Overview of the OSLC Food Ministry Program: Background, Information, Volunteer Needs and How to Stretch Each Dollar Spent on OSLC Food Ministry”*** will be available in the Narthex for your information and use. --Larry Schoff

**Comfort Clothes Ministry**

Goal: to organize an ongoing clothing drive to supplement clothing supply to St. Albans.

Why? Clothes that patients are wearing when they are admitted may sometimes be marked with signs of addiction, suicide attempts, or other aspects of mental illness, and seeing this can be distressing to the patients later in their stay.

**List of items needed**

What? Gently used (no holes or stains) clothing for male and female patients. Sizes Small to 4XL. Shoes are also needed. Slip on shoes are best. Laces will be removed and then sent with the patient upon discharge.

**Shirts, Hoodies, Jackets, Pants, Jeans, Shoes**

Restrictions:

No strings (or ability to cut/remove strings)

No hard metal on clothing (zippers are allowed)

No explicit language, drug/alcohol references, offensive topics

No short shorts

No skirts, dresses or nightgowns

No see-through, severely low-cut or tank tops

No underwires or adjustable-strap bras - sports bras are best

No used undergarments

When? Comfort clothes collection - once/season.

Fall collection - delivery for mid-October

Winter collection - delivery for mid-January

Spring collection - delivery for mid-April

Summer collection - delivery for mid-July

Where? Please place clothing articles on table near choir room.

--Lorin Crowder

## Stewardship

*The Mission of Our Saviour Lutheran Church is to serve God's community through  
Worship, Outreach, and Fellowship.*

OSLC's fall Stewardship Appeal, which is an annual focus on our giving to support our mission, will begin in September. Keeping in mind that our mission is accomplished by serving God's community through our various ministries, we will be using letters, bulletin inserts, and temple talks to tell you about the ministry plans for 2026.

### A FEW NOTED THANKS:

To Nathaniel Porter for leading the Book Discussions on Thursdays and taking a break.

To John Hess for resolving the issue with door locks at OSLC—NOT the keys but the locks were old and needed simple repair. **(PLEASE remember: if you unlock, relock!)**

To Pete Price for professional job cleaning the carpets at OSLC.

For OSLC leaders sharing ministries August 17. Watch for ways to join in the work of OSLC ministries through Time and Talent Stewardship Appeal.

For delicious food and warm conversations and sharing time with one another each Sunday.

For sharing worship in person and on-line.

For donations of time and resources to OSLC and our ministries

For support each provides to the folks in your neighborhood and services to those in need, but unknown to you.

For your daily prayer for one another and the work of the Lord in our community

For our staff keeping up, supporting, and leading us.

### THANK YOU ALL!!

Please let me know of additional thanks to note for next OSLC NEWS

Ann Hess, [annahesspottery@gmail.com](mailto:annahesspottery@gmail.com), compiler of the OSLC NEWS.