



The Eternal Light

Eternal Savior Lutheran Church
2688 North Park Drive
Lafayette, CO 80026
303-665-6105

September 2023

Not Simple Water Only



We all memorized these words in Confirmation class when we learned what the Sacrament of Holy Baptism is all about. Dr. Martin Luther taught us that “Baptism is not simple water only, but it is the water comprehended in God’s command and connected with God’s Word.” What a simple, yet powerful blessing! Baptism works forgiveness of sins and delivers us from death. It gives the certain gift of eternal life. In the book of Titus, we read:

“He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.” Titus 3:5-8

Let’s briefly consider a few of the key words in this Bible passage:

Washing
Rebirth/Renewal

We’re clean! Our sins are gone/drowned with our Old Adam. We have new life in Christ because of His death and resurrection.

Generously

God blessings are given without end because of His great love.

Justified

Jesus has redeemed us! We are perfect in God’s sight.

Heirs

As loved children, we freely inherit eternal life from God.

Hope

Confidence and certainly that eternal life in heaven is ours.

Trustworthy

There is no doubt! God’s Word is infallible.



At Eternal Savior we have placed our Baptismal font at the front and center of the chancel. It is there to inescapably remind us of God's great love for each of us, and to lead us to continue in daily contrition and repentance, whereby we arise daily to live before God in righteousness and purity. This summer we were blessed with three baptisms at Eternal Savior! We welcomed these saints as fellow believers and members of the Body of Christ. Praise God for His unending love and mercy through the gift of Holy Baptism!



Harris Hafeez
July 27, 2023



Michael Scott
August 15, 2023



Alexandra Renae Ertle
August 28, 2023

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 10 – Rally Day. Sunday School and Bible Study return.

Sunday, September 10 – Church Picnic following Sunday School and Bible Study. Deacons will provide the meat and drinks. Sign up to bring something to share. There is a sign-up on the bulletin board.

OFFERING REPORT

Offerings for the month of August were:

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| August 6 | \$3,053 |
| August 13 | \$2,759 |
| August 20 | \$2,001 |
| August 27 | \$4,456 |

This weekly average (\$ 3,067) compares to our 2023 weekly budget needs of **\$4,369**.

COUNTER SCHEDULE

If you have a conflict on a day you are scheduled, please arrange with another counter to cover that day.

| | |
|--|--|
| Sept. 3 Marc and Jan Ertle | Oct. 1 – Polly Cowley and Cindy Stahly |
| Sept. 10 Marc and Jan Ertle | Oct. 8 – Sam and Lynn Kelley |
| Sept. 17 Lynn Kelley and Cindy Stahly | Oct. 15 – Sam and Lynn Kelley |
| Sept. 24 Polly Cowley and Kathrine Crane | Oct. 22 – Mark and Mary Bunge |
| | Oct. 29 – Mark and Mary Bunge |

**** We have a handful of members successfully using both of our electronic giving options. If you are interested in trying it out but need a refresher please let Mary know and she will have someone get in contact with you.

Update from your Call Committee:

Following our congregational potluck last Sunday (08/27/23), we held a Call Service to vote on a candidate to Call as our new Pastor. Pastor Besel, our Circuit Visitor, led the congregation in a preparatory Call service of explanation, prayer and hymn that he, himself, had written. Following this, the podium was turned over to our President for the Voter's Meeting. After calling the meeting to order, the President asked the Call Committee to speak. The Chair of the Call Committee then gave a brief accounting of how the final three (3) candidates were chosen to be put forward from the starting list of twenty-five (25) candidates given by District.

The first order of business was a vote to accept the slate of three (3) candidates as presented. The slate was accepted, a committee member then read a short biography for all three (3) of the chosen candidates and the floor was opened for questions. Many member questions were put forward and answered by the Call Committee members, including questions concerning 'alternative' Orders of Service, what the candidates had to say concerning the possibilities for youth ministry growth, and why the Call Committee did not make a recommendation to the congregation on their choice of candidate. It was a very lively discussion back-and-forth on many levels, even getting Pastor Besel involved in explaining the standards set by LCMS for worship – those parts that must be included.

The Call Committee was then asked directly which candidate/s they recommended, and they answered that Pastors Thorson and Munding were so close that even they could not decide. They were then polled as to why they would support each candidate and also why they would not support each candidate – what they liked and what they were leery of. After all questions had been answered, a motion to vote was presented and accepted. A secret, written ballot vote was taken and collected from all voters by the President. The President and the chair of the Call Committee retired to the Fireside Room to count and verify the vote against records. The written ballots were separated by candidate and counted, and the results given to the President, who then added the absentee ballots submitted to him, as per our Constitution. In the first and only vote, a majority of votes went to Pastor Thorson. The results of the vote were relayed to the voters and a motion to unanimously Call Pastor Thorson as our new Pastor was put forward. The motion was approved by voice vote, with no dissenting votes.

Following the vote, Pastor Besel and the Call Chair again went into the Fireside Room and contacted Pastor Thorson by cellphone to see if he was still willing to deliberate our Call; he was. This information was relayed to the congregation and the meeting was closed with a prayer from Pastor Besel imploring us to pray for the Pastor Elect and for the congregations he now serves.

After the Service, the Call paperwork was signed and delivered to the Church Secretary. Later that evening, the Call Packet was sent by email to the Pastor Elect, with another hardcopy sent by FedEx on Monday morning. The District Office was also informed of the Call being sent to the Pastor Elect.

Pastor Thorson verified receipt of the email on Monday morning and will now prayerfully consider our Call and respond with his answer. This usually takes 3-6 weeks, but can take longer. When he responds to me with his decision, I will inform both the congregation and the District. While we are waiting for his decision, please keep Pastor Thorson, his family, the congregations he now serves and our congregation in your prayers.

Wayne B. Thomas

Chair, Pastoral Call Committee

Worship Time Survey Results

Dear Friends in the Savior –

Over the summer we conducted a survey to understand the interest within the congregation regarding moving our Sunday worship to a later time. We had a strong response to the survey with 69 members sharing their views. The data is summarized below. The congregation stated a strong preference (88%) toward maintaining our current Sunday schedule with worship at 9:00AM followed by Sunday School and Bible Class at 10:30AM. With this strong sentiment among our members, we will remain with our current schedule and consider this issue closed for now.

| Total Responses: 69 | 9:00AM | 10:00AM | 9:30AM (SS before) | 9:30AM (SS after) |
|---------------------------|--------|---------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Strongly Agree | 50 | 9 | 4 | 5 |
| Agree | 5 | 7 | 9 | 6 |
| Neutral | 6 | 9 | 7 | 12 |
| Disagree | 2 | 8 | 13 | 8 |
| Strongly Disagree | 1 | 23 | 20 | 23 |
| No Response | 5 | 13 | 16 | 15 |
| Neutral to Favorable | 88% | 36% | 29% | 33% |
| Neutral to Unfavorable | 12% | 64% | 71% | 67% |

Trends in Comments

- Concern about children if time is moved forward (too early for kids), or later (too late, loss of focus, hunger)
- Sunday School and Bible class before worship discourages fellowship time
- ULC has an evening service for those wishing a later time. Also, could bring back Thursday evening worship.
- Numerous “I don’t see a need to change” comments.
- Favorable comments for change: “Any time is better than 9AM”, “A change of service time is a wonderful idea.”, “if anything, start earlier.”

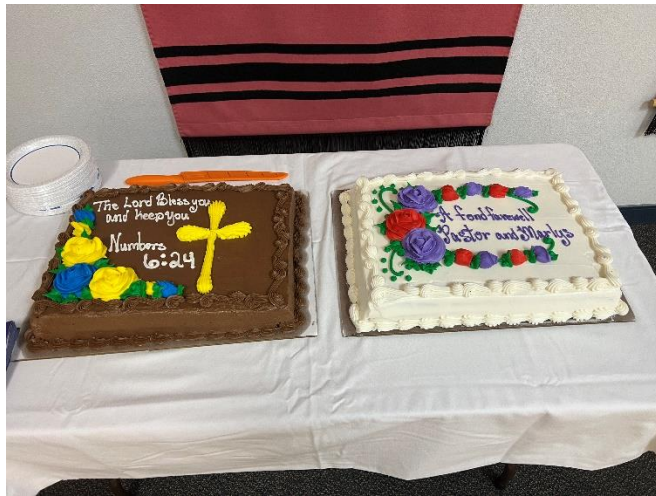
Blessings, as we continue to consider what is best for our membership as we serve our Lord.

On behalf of the Board of Elders,

Keith Cowley, Chair

Fond Farewell

On Sunday, August 20th we had a reception to bid farewell to Pastor Schultz and Marlys. We appreciate the time that they were with us and wish them all of God's blessings in their next appointment.



REMINDERS

The Deacon's Fund supports Emergency Family Assistance, ULC, and other charities as well. All of these funds will be used to alleviate the needs of people who are in very vulnerable circumstances. The agencies have expressed great gratitude. We are only able to do this because of the generous and faithful contributions of you, our dear members, to the Deacon's Fund! Please consider contributing via your offering envelopes or in the Deacons' Fund collector in the Narthex! Thanks!!!

Please be responsible!!! For everyone who has access to the church building, it is your responsibility when you leave to make sure that all lights are off, the heat/air-conditioning/fans are turned back or off and all of the **doors are locked and secure!!** Please do double checks before you leave.

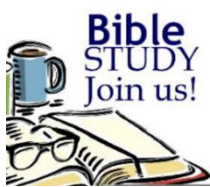
We ask that all members of the congregation please be conscious of protecting their valuables while at church. Many times, the doors are left unlocked, and people are downstairs. This gives easy access to someone who may not be a member. We will try to remember to lock the doors after service.

Sign Up to Receive Text Messages - Eternal Savior is building a text message list for urgent communications. i.e. Service is cancelled due to a blizzard. If you would like to receive notifications like that via text message, please text **ETERNALSAVIOR** (one word, no space) to 84576. Contact Laura Raben if you need help signing up.

The **2023 Flower Chart** is now available on the bulletin board. Please look to see if there is a service you would like to provide flowers. Also include if the flowers are for a special occasion.

Parking spaces in front of the church should be reserved for those members and visitors that need to park close to the building due to health concerns or weather. Please be considerate and leave these spaces to those who need them most.

Large print worship service folders and assisted listening devices are available. Please ask an usher if needed.



Sunday Morning Bible Study – Please join us after service downstairs for Sunday morning Bible Study.

Sunday School! We are studying the “Enduring Faith” curriculum, Unit 8. Sunday School opening is at 10:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. All children are encouraged to join us!

Wednesday Night Bible Study - At the Wednesday night Bible study we are studying how we got the Bible and how the Bible is on Trial. Please consider joining us Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. We will meet in the Fireside Room, and a Zoom link will be available to anyone who would prefer to attend remotely.

SERVING IN SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 3

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Pastor | Pastor Rob Jarvis |
| Organist /Pianist | Linda Innes |
| Acolyte | Mikayla Richardson |
| Usher(s) | Ryan Lambrecht, Roger Landowski |
| Greeter(s) | Bob and Brenda Vieyra |
| Counter(s) | Marc and Jan Ertle |
| Elder(s) | Keith Cowley, Jeff Reuer |
| Altar | Cindy Stahly |
| A/V Booth | Kirk Anderson |
| Lawn | Kirk Anderson |
| Flowers | Jasper |

Sunday, September 10

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Organist /Pianist | Linda Innes |
| Cantor | Tom Stahly |
| Acolyte | Micah Anderson |
| Usher(s) | Ryan Lambrecht, Marc Ertle |
| Greeter(s) | Kirk and Melisa Anderson |
| Counter(s) | Marc and Jan Ertle |
| Elder(s) | Kirk Anderson (r), Dave Sherrets, Wayne Thomas, Keith Cowley |
| A/V Booth | Laura Raben |
| Lawn | Bob Vieyra |
| Flowers | Oehlkers |

Sunday, September 17

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Pastor | Pastor Roger Schlechte |
| Organist/Pianist | Linda Thompson |
| Acolyte | Levi Hinrichs |
| Usher(s) | Kirk Anderson, Marc Ertle |
| Greeter(s) | Sam and Lynn Kelley |
| Counter(s) | Lynn Kelley and Cindy Stahly |
| Elder(s) | Dave Sherrets, Wayne Thomas |
| Altar | Cindy Stahly |
| A/V Booth | Larissa and Katie Reuer |
| Lawn | Sam Kelley |
| Flowers | Griffin |

Sunday, September 24

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Pastor | Pastor Rob Jarvis |
| Organist/Pianist | Linda Thompson |
| Cantor | Mark Bunge |
| Acolyte | Micah Anderson |
| Usher(s) | Kirk Anderson, Roger Landowski |
| Greeter(s) | Larissa and Keff Reuer |
| Counter(s) | Polly Cowley and Katherine Crane |
| Elder(s) | Ryan Lambrecht (r), Wayne Thomas |
| Altar | Cindy Stahly |
| A/V Booth | Dave Sherrets |
| Lawn | Ryan Lambrecht |
| Flowers | OPEN |

We have many ways in which our members can share their gifts with others each Sunday. Some of those are Greeters, Offering Counters, Ushers, Livestream and Audio Engineers, Lawn Mowing/Snow Removal. These are all listed on the Servant Calendar on our web site. Please reach out to Mary at the church office if you can serve. We so appreciate and thank God for your service!

NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF DEACONS

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHURCH PICNIC – The church picnic is coming up! September 10th. Rally Day! Deacons will provide meat and drinks; everyone just bring a side dish or dessert to share. There is a sign-up on the bulletin board. There will be games for the kids. Could be wet!! See you there.

FOOD PANTRY: SISTER CARMEN

Please be on the lookout in September for more info on a specialized drive we will be having for Sister Carmen. They are always in need of all nonperishable food items and household cleaning supplies, but we will be in touch and see if there is a specific need we could fill for them this fall. We thank you all for the continued support of donations into our box in the narthex. Watch for bulletin flyers for our specialized drive hopefully to be completed sometime in October.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERINGS

So far this Sunday School year the children have collected a total of \$128.53 for Mercy House in Lima, Peru.

MELODRAMA

We are looking to see who may be interested in planning and participating in the Melodrama. This is a fellowship activity we would like to bring back. Please let any Deacon know if you are interested.

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHAPEL (ULC)

ULC Meal – The next meal will be on September 17. There is already a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board with food items you could donate. It is so helpful to have the congregation involved in this outreach to the students of ULC. We thank you ! Please feel free to come to dinner and meet the ULC community!

LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES SUPPORT

We did not have a request from LFS for backpacks this year. If you want to donate something for school children, Sister Carmen or any local school would be appreciative of anything you have to offer.

EMERGENCY FAMILY ASSISTANCE SUPPORT

We continue to support EFAA with our monthly donations.

Deacon's Fund Status
\$1,720.70

Please keep the Deacon's Fund in your hearts and give as you are able through your offering envelopes and box in the narthex.

NEXT MEETING
September 24, 2023

September 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 9:00 AM Worship and Communion | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 9:00-11:00 Quilters 6:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Rally Day 9:00 AM Worship and Communion 10:30 Bible Class/ Sunday School 11:40 AM Church Picnic | 11 6:00 Confirmation | 12 7:00 PM Elders | 13 | 14 9:00-11:00 Quilters 6:30 PM Trustees | 15 | 16 |
| 17 9:00 AM Worship and Communion 10:30 Bible Class/Sunday School 11:40 Church Council | 18 6:00 Confirmation | 19 | 20 | 21 9:00-11:00 Quilters | 22 | 23 |
| 24 9:00 AM Worship and Communion 10:30 Bible Class/Sunday School 11:40 AM Deacons | 25 6:00 Confirmation | 26 | 27 | 28 9:00-11:00 Quilters | 29 | 30 |

For livestreaming video, please go to church's Facebook page www.facebook.com/EternalSaviorLutheran or ESLC website <https://eternalsavior-lutheran.org/>



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

THE CREED — SEPTEMBER 1-15

We confess the three ecumenical Creeds, the Apostles', Nicene and Athanasian. We believe in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, three persons. Luther's explanation of the Apostles' Creed in the Small Catechism teaches important truths about God as our creator, redeemer and sanctifier.

Rejoice in God's goodness in Christ as you pray:

1. Thank God that He is our loving heavenly Father.
2. Thank God for His creation.
3. Thank God for daily bread. Pray that all would be fed and clothed this day.
4. Thank God for family. Pray that God would guide all families love each other with the love of God in Christ Jesus.
5. Thank God for shelter. Pray for those who are without homes this day.
6. Thank God for reason. Pray that learning and intellect

are always in service of God's Kingdom.

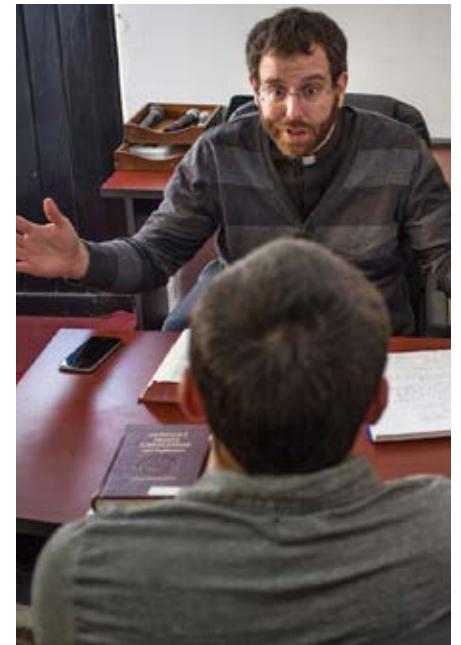
7. Thank God for Jesus. He is our only Savior from sin, death and the power of the devil.
8. Rejoice that Jesus is true man, that He can sympathize with our weaknesses.
9. Rejoice that Jesus is true God, that our Savior is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
10. Repent of all your sins and trust that God forgives your sins through the blood of Jesus.
11. Pray that God would empower you, by His Spirit, to live in righteousness, innocence and blessedness.

12. Thank God that He freely gives faith and salvation through His Spirit. Pray that all would hear the Word and be Baptized according to His will.

13. Thank God for the Holy Spirit. Pray that He would keep all in the true faith.

14. Thank God for the Church. Pray that she would remain faithful to her Savior.

15. Rejoice that God gives and sustains faith in the Holy Trinity. Rejoice that God is love.



OFFICE OF THE KEYS/CONFESSION — SEPTEMBER 16-30

Jesus gave the office of the keys to the Church through His Apostles. Confession has two parts. First that we confess our sins, and second that we receive the forgiveness of our sins.

Rejoice in the gifts of Confession and Absolution as you pray:

16. *That God would lead all sinners to repentance.*

17. *Confess your sins before God. Trust that God forgives your sins through Christ Jesus.*

18. *Thank God for your pastor and all pastors. Pray that God would grant them faith and strength in their Word and Sacrament ministry.*

19. *Thank God for corporate confession and absolution each Sunday.*

20. *Thank God for the opportunity for individual confession and absolution with your pastor.*

21. *Thank God for the vocations He has given to you. Pray that you serve Him and your neighbor faithfully each day.*

22. *Pray for all unbelievers, that they would repent and trust in Christ.*

23. *Pray for all who are caught in unrepentant sin, that they would humbly confess their sins and receive holy Absolution.*

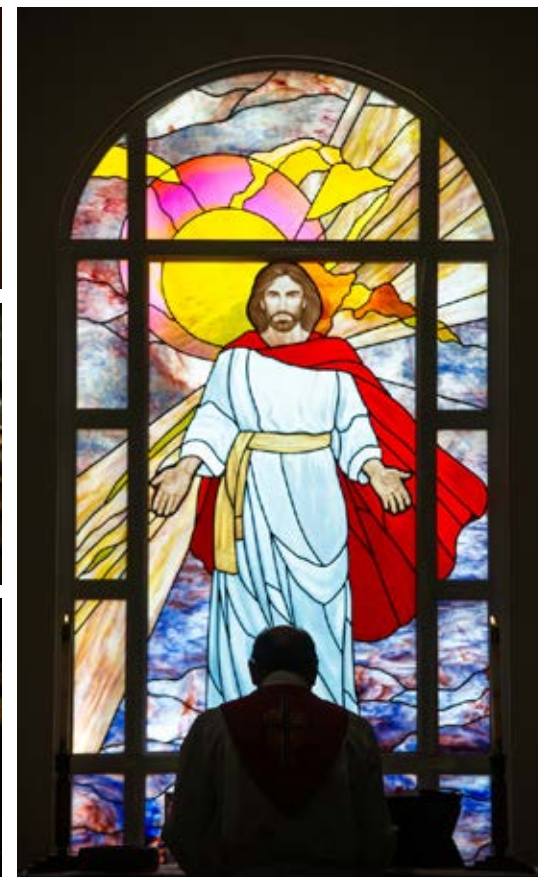
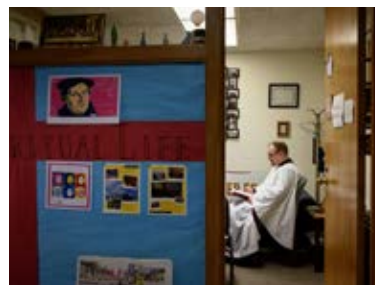
24. *Pray for the Spirit to empower you to amend your sinful life, that all you think, say and do would please God.*

25. *Thank God for the Church. Pray that the Church remain faithful to the preaching and teaching of God's Word and the administration of the Sacraments according to God's will.*

26. *Pray for those who have stopped attending church. Ask God to provide someone to share Christ with them and bring them back.*

27. *Pray for Christian parents, that they would model forgiveness and raise their children in the Christian faith.*

28. *Pray for the strength to forgive people in your life. Ask God to give the faith necessary to forgive as He forgives.*



29. *Thank God that He always answers our confession with words of forgiveness and life.*

30. *Pray that Jesus would return quickly, that sin and death will soon be finally defeated, and God's people will dwell with Him forever.*

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.