



# August Newsletter

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## From the Pastor's Desk by Pastor Maxwell Whitehead

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 Maxwell Whitehead*

*"<sup>26</sup>Likewise 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. <sup>27</sup>And 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. <sup>28</sup>And 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

**Wednesday, August 2**

2:00 PM Bible Study

**Sunday, August 6**

**10:30 AM Worship Service (Communion)**

11:30 AM Council Meeting  
7:00 PM VCIS

**Wednesday, August 9**

2:00 PM Bible Study

**Sunday, August 13**

**10:30 AM Worship Service (Traditional)**

7:00 PM VCIS

**Wednesday, August 16**

2:00 PM Bible Study

**Sunday, August 20**

**10:30 AM Worship Service (Communion)**

7:00 PM VCIS

**Wednesday, August 23**

**Newsletter Deadline**

2:00 PM Bible Study

**Sunday, August 27**

**10:30 AM Worship Service (Contemporary)**

7:00 PM VCIS

**Wednesday, August 30**

2:00 PM Bible Study

5:30 PM Confirmation

7:00 PM VCIS

# August Worship Helpers

**Sunday, August 6**

Reader ..... Janet Munkvold  
Acolytes ..... Summer Hiatus  
Communion Helper ..... Summer Hiatus  
Live Stream ..... Janet Munkvold  
Organist/Pianist ..... Annet Kropuenske

**Sunday, August 13**

Reader ..... Kayla Larsen  
Acolytes ..... Summer Hiatus  
Live Stream ..... Janet Munkvold  
Organist/Pianist ..... Annet Kropuenske

**Sunday, August 20**




Reader ..... Charlene Overgard  
Acolytes ..... Summer Hiatus  
Communion Helper ..... Summer Hiatus  
Live Stream ..... Janet Munkvold  
Music ..... Praise Band

**Sunday, August 27**


Reader ..... Faydra Christensen  
Acolytes ..... Summer Hiatus  
Live Stream ..... Janet Munkvold  
Organist/Pianist ..... Annet Kropuenske

# August Ushers & Cleaners




**August Ushers**

 Gary and Karen Larsen  
 Gene Larsen  
 Ray Nielsen

**Cleaners Jul 30 - Aug 5**

 General Cleaning - All are welcome to help out!

**Cleaners August 6 - 19**

 Ann Larsen,  
 Lexi Larsen,  
 Linda Larsen




**Cleaners Aug 20 - Sep 2**

 Elaine Lee,  
 Brenda Lee  
 Kaye Lee,  
 Katie Smit



Help support the VCIS Mission At Home by Flamingo-ing a Friend!

Cost:

-  \$30 to send the flock,
-  \$15 to have them removed,
-  \$5 to find out who sent them.

Contact Pr. Max to schedule! [prmax@svlcvb.org](mailto:prmax@svlcvb.org)



# July Scripture Readings

**August 6** - Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21, Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21

**August 13** - Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28, Psalm 85:8-13, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33

**August 20** - Genesis 45:1-15, Psalm 67, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

**August 27** - Exodus 1:8-2:10, Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20



## Looking Ahead To September

**Sunday, September 3**

**9:00 AM**    **Worship Service (Communion)**

**Wednesday, September 6**

2:00 PM    Bible Study

5:30 PM    Confirmation

7:00 PM    VCIS

7:00 PM    Council Mtg

**Sunday, September 10**

**9:00 AM**    **Worship Service (traditional)**

**Wednesday, September 13**

2:00 PM    Bible Study

3:45 PM    Jr. VCIS

5:30 PM    Confirmation

7:00 PM    VCIS



The September Newsletter Deadline is August 23. Please submit the reader schedule

**DEADLINE** for inclusion into the August 27 bulletin.

**50<sup>th</sup>**  
*Anniversary Celebration*

Honoring  
**Morris & Lynne Elcock**

August 6, 2023 ❖ 11:30 AM-ish

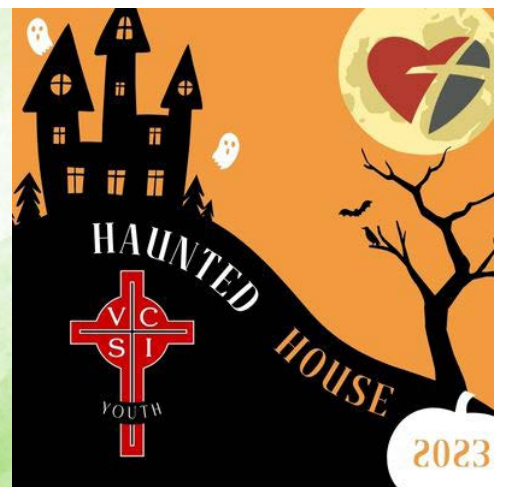
We invite you to join us following the SVLC worship service to help celebrate the golden wedding anniversary of Morris and Lynne Elcock.

*Time 4 Change!*



**STARTING IN SEPTEMBER!**  
**WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BE AT 9:00 AM**

Spring Valley  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
44707 289th St  
PO Box 98  
Viborg SD 57070



## We now have TWO Thrivent Projects!

We have three new projects for which we are seeking funding assistance:

1. The Fire Pit Project at Parish Hall has achieved full funding! Thank You!!
2. Rally Sunday events for both OSLC & SVLC happening in September
3. The VCIS Haunted House Fundraiser



Learn how you can help by scanning the QR code or visiting:

<https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-action-teams>