



October Newsletter

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From the Pastor's Desk by Pastor Maxwell Whitehead

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard...⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ...⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage." - Matthew 20:1, 6-7

Last week, the 17th Sunday after Pentecost, we heard Jesus' parable of the master in the vineyard. A quick recap: The master hires people at varying times in the day and then pays them all the same. This upsets those that were working the longest, but the master does not care because it's his money and he chooses to be generous.

There are so many things going on in that parable, but for the sake of this moment, let us look at the people who were hired last. The master asks, "why are you standing here idle all day?" They reply, "Because no one has hired us."

And then the master hires them. No more questions, no background check. The master just wants them in his vineyard knowing full well that he is going to give them an entire day's pay for just an hour of work.

So often we see people standing idle, that is, not having or hearing the promise that the master has for us. I'd say that all of you reading this have likely been in the vineyard for some time. If you are new to the vineyard - the folds of Christianity, God's flock - then welcome! We are glad you are here. But we tend to see the people standing idle and instead of hiring them to come and work, instead of telling them, "hey, come join us in the kingdom," we look on and simply think, "they must not want to be working."

We then play the role of the manager of the vineyard and decide who the master should hire.

John Doe has never been to church, he probably wouldn't be comfortable here with us. Or Jane Doe seems too busy, she probably doesn't have time for God. Or how about this, "it's so great when we have the church full of people, I wish it were always this full."

We are called to invite all the people into the vineyard! We get in our own way so often trying to qualify who should receive the call. The master of the vineyard does not see the people sitting idle and think "you must not have been hired for a reason," or "you are not great friends with a few of the others that I have already hired, I do not want you."

God's Word is for all those with ears to hear. Plus, it is His Word and He will do with it as He pleases. Therefore, let us be equipped with that Word and spread it boldly. If you are not comfortable giving the word of promise yourself, give an invitation to a place where the Word will get heard - worship, bible study, etc. Let us go without question to hire laborers for God's vineyard. Our payment is safe, no one can take that away. Let us share the love, mercy, and forgiveness that God has given us with those who stand idle.

This is most certainly true.

Pastor Maxwell Whitehead

October Calendar

Sunday, Oct 01

8:00 AM Council Mtg
 9:00 AM Worship Service (Communion)
 10:15 AM Sunday School

Wednesday, Oct 04

2:00 PM Bible Study
 5:30 PM Confirmation
 7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Oct 08

9:00 AM Worship Service (Traditional)
 11:00 AM Sunday School

Wednesday, Oct 11

2:00 PM Bible Study
 3:45 PM Jr. VCIS
 5:30 PM Confirmation
 7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Oct 15

10:30 AM Worship Service/Fall Festival @ OSLC

Wednesday, Oct 18

2:00 PM Bible Study
 3:45 PM Jr. VCIS
 5:30 PM Confirmation
 7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Oct 22

9:00 AM Worship Service (Contemporary)
 10:15 AM Sunday School

Tuesday, Oct 24

Newsletter deadline

Wednesday, Oct 25

2:00 PM Bible Study
 3:45 PM Jr. VCIS
 5:30 PM Confirmation
 7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Oct 29

9:00 AM Worship Service (Communion)
 10:15 AM Sunday School
 6:00 PM Book Study with Ellie

October Worship Helpers

Sunday, October 01

Reader Janet Munkvold
 Acolytes Nora Rudd and Andrew Spangler
 Communion Helper Reagan Rudd
 Live Stream Janet Munkvold
 Organist/Pianist Annet Kropuenske

Sunday, October 08

Reader Brett Mellem
 Acolytes Emily Ludens & Katie Spangler
 Live Stream Janet Munkvold
 Organist/Pianist Annet Kropuenske

Sunday, October 15

Harvest Festival at OS
 Organist Annet Kropuenske

Sunday, October 22




Reader Brett Mellem
 Acolytes Kaleb Huber & Ryker Larsen
 Live Stream Janet Munkvold
 Organist/Pianist Praise Band

Sunday, October 29

Reader Faydra Christensen
 Acolytes Lincoln Mellem & Braxton Sorensen
 Communion Helper Riley Gall
 Live Stream Janet Munkvold
 Organist/Pianist Annet Kropuenske

October Ushers & Cleaners






October Ushers

 Charlie and Dawn Kludt
 Brett and Beth Mellem
 Aaron and Haylee Sherard






Cleaners Oct. 1 - 14

 Rita Westergard,
 Wanda Kost,
 Charlene Overgard,
 Gail Anderson,
 Kristi Johnson

Cleaners Oct. 15 - 28

 Pam Ludens,
 Sarah Ludens,
 Lynne Elcock,
 Kari Novak,
 Tammy Sorensen

Cleaners Oct. 29 - Nov 11

 Pam Ludens,
 Sarah Ludens,
 Lynne Elcock,
 Kari Novak,
 Tammy Sorensen

October Scripture Readings

Oct 1 - Exodus 17:1- 7, Psalm 25:1- 9, Philippians 2:1- 13, Matthew 21:23- 32

Oct 8 - Exodus 20:1- 4, 7- 9, 12- 20, Psalm 80:7- 15, Philippians 3:4b- 14, Matthew 21:33- 46

Oct 15 - Exodus 32:1- 14, Psalm 23, Philippians 4:1- 9, Matthew 22:1- 14

Oct 22 - Exodus 33:12- 23, Psalm 96:1- 9, (10- 13), 1 Thessalonians 1:1- 10, Matthew 22:15-22

Oct 29 - Deuteronomy 34:1- 12, Psalm 1, 1 Thessalonians 2:1- 8, Matthew 22:34-46



October 15 at 10:30AM

Let us all join together as one body for worship at Our Saviors Lutheran Church!

Please bring a dish to pass and let us eat together too. We hope to see everyone there!

Looking Ahead To November

Wednesday, Nov 01

- 2:00 PM Bible Study
- 3:45 PM Jr. VCIS
- 5:30 PM Confirmation
- 7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Nov 05

- 8:00 AM Council Mtg
- 9:00 AM Worship Service (Communion)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School

Wednesday, Nov 08

- 2:00 PM Bible Study
- 3:45 PM Jr. VCIS
- 5:30 PM Confirmation
- 7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Nov 12

- 9:00 AM Worship Service (Traditional)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School

Volunteers needed

Looking for volunteers to help with confirmation quilts!! Let Linda know if you would like to help.

The November Newsletter Deadline is October 24. Submissions after the deadline are not guaranteed inclusion into the newsletter. **Please submit all articles and information on time.** Thank you very much in advance!



YOUTH NEWS

We are back to Wednesday evenings and are in full swing! VCIS is an opportunity for the youth of our congregations and community to gather together in fellowship, service, and scripture. This year we have implemented some new plans!

Each week we rotate between being an evening of service or an evening focused on Scripture. While it is still nice out, we have spent the evenings playing together in the lot next to the Parish Hall as well as sitting around a fire and hammocking in the new outdoor fellowship area on the northeast side of the Hall. We have consistently had 12-15 kids showing up to spend time together!

Our first week of service was simple: move 30-40 chairs for the people of Our Savior's. Our focus on Scripture has had us diving into what the Bible tells us about worship and what we need in our own worship services. As the fall carries on and leaves begin to fall, it is likely we will spend service time doing some raking and fall clean up for people. If you have a service project we could tackle in an evening or perhaps over a couple Wednesday evenings, let me know!

One of the big things this group has done over the past 2 years is go on mission trips. I am excited to officially announce our plan for the next 2 years!

Summer 2024: Mission at Home. Everything we have done on the mission trips can/need to be done here in our own community. The kids have all said it. So we are going to make it happen. The details are still being ironed out, but the plan is for this Mission at Home to happen in June of 2024. We are very excited to take a week devoted to serving the community here at home!




Summer 2025: YouthWorks High School and Up. The past 2 mission trips have been a mix of high school and middle schoolers. Summer 2025 will be for the class of 2025 through the class of 2029. The destination will be either South Texas or Puerto Rico, this will be decided later. As the trip is designed for high schoolers, the kids will get a slightly different experience than their past 2 trips. On behalf of the Youth, I'd like to thank everyone for their support of this ministry that we are joined together in! We look forward to the growing faith, fellowship, and service that the future holds for us.

Peace be with you all!



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!

Flamingo A Friend!



Viborg SD 57070
PO Box 98
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LUTHERAN CHURCH
Spring Valley



Potential Thrivent Projects!

We have projects for which we are seeking funding assistance:

1. Parsonage Touch Ups (OSLC)
2. 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>

