

# **Congregation Meeting**

Sunday, June 1, 2025, 9:30 a.m. (In the Commons) Our Savior Lutheran Church and School, Lansing

### <u>Agenda</u>

9:30	Welcome & Call to Order	<b>Jake Kasper</b> Chairman, Board of Directors			
9:35	Opening Prayer	Pastor Chris Associate Pastor			
9:40	<ul> <li>Ministry Updates</li> <li>God Sightings</li> <li>Hmong Ministry</li> <li>OSL Food Bank</li> <li>Next Vicar – Vicar Paul Engelhardt</li> </ul>	<b>Pastor Wangelin</b> Senior Pastor			
9:50	<ul> <li>Our Savior Lutheran School Report</li> <li>Commitment to Faith &amp; Learning</li> <li>Thank you to School Teachers &amp; Staff</li> <li>Panther Summer Camp 2025</li> </ul>	<b>Matthew Couser</b> Principal			
10:00	Vision Team Report	Jim Sundstrom			
10:05	Financial Report	Stephanie Trapp Business Manager			
10:10	Proposed Budget for 2025-26 <u>Vote</u> on Budget	<b>Stephanie Trapp</b> Business Manager			
10:20	Q & A	Staff			
10:25	Closing Prayer	<b>Jim Sundstrom</b> Chairman, Spiritual Life Team			
Important Dates					
•	June 9, First day of Summer Camp				

- June 18, Family Adventure Night
- June 29, Recognition of Military, Community Protectors, Emergency Workers during worship
- July 21-24, Basketball camp
- July 27, Vicar Joseph Farewell
- August 3, Vicar Installation (Paul Engelhardt)
- August 8, Last Day of Summer Camp
- August 20, First Day of School
- August 24, Outdoor Service (weather permitting)
- October 4, Oktoberfest

# Learn, Live, Share Christ!

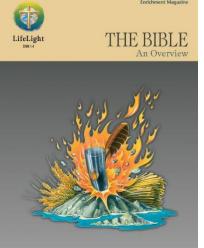
We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify us as the people of God. Our church and school ministry continues to be a shining light and island of refuge for young and old in this fallen world, offering the grace, mercy and truth of our Savior, Jesus. We are doing life together as brothers and sisters in Christ, all at the foot of the cross. Our identity, purpose, and hope are secured in our crucified, risen, and reigning Savior. Alleluia! Christ is Risen!



Easter Sunday worship - 2025: 847, 2024: 691, 2023: 793, 2022: 690, 2021: 383, 2020: 0, 2019: 848

How can we continue to reach out to our community and make disciples of all nations? How is God leading us to grow in faith, hope, and love as a church family? Let's continue to pray for the ministries of our church and school as the Lord directs us by the Holy Spirit to reach others with the love of Christ.





## Fall LifeLight Series – Overview of the Bible

This fall, we are inviting the whole community to join our LifeLight Bible Study series for an overview of the Bible. Whether you've read the Bible cover to cover or are just getting started, this will help connect the people, places, and events of salvation history that culminate in our Savior, Jesus.

This class is relatable to the life-long student of the Bible, but accessible to the seeker or beginner. This makes it a special opportunity to invite unchurched or dechurched friends, family, and neighbors, as well as our whole community to know more about God's Word.

# **Hmong Ministry**

With Pastor Yang's departure in March, our Hmong Ministry is entering a new phase. Hmong worship is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month in the Music Room, led by the Hmong elders. They join our English service at 10:30 on Communion Sundays. Our congregation is "leaning in" to help integrate our Hmong members more into the life of the church. We look forward to building closer bonds with these brothers and sisters as we learn, live, and share Christ together (in Hmong, *Kawm, Nyob, Qhia Christ*).



# **OSL Food Bank**

and extra items for those in need.



praise God for her ministry as our Food Bank Director for 27 years! We are also grateful for Jill Berends, who will serve as the new Food Bank Director starting officially July 1. The OSL Food Bank serves people in Ingham County out of the former OSL parsonage at the site of our old church on Holmes Road. It is one

Sharon Miller has served as director of the OSL Food Bank since 1998 when she took over for Diane Goschka. Sharon retires this month and is moving to family in Traverse City. We



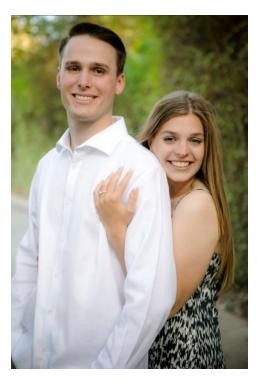
# **LCMS Michigan District Convention**

of the larger food banks in the county, and always gives a special measure of God's love

The 104<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod will meet June 22 – 24 at Concordia University, Ann Arbor. We are blessed to be a part of a faithful and mission-minded church body along with 6,000 other congregations across the country. The Michigan District is a ministry partner of OSL that focuses on Great Commission Ministries, Great Compassion Ministries, Healthy Church Workers, and Healthy Congregations. The voting delegates from OSL are Jim Sundstrom and Pastor Wangelin. Go to michigandistrict.org/convention to learn more.



# Introducing our Next Vicar – Paul Engelhardt



My name is Paul Engelhardt and I am married to my wife, Bekah. I did not know I would be a pastor, but God had other plans. I have had experience working as a Camp Counselor and enjoyed my time teaching the word and spreading the Gospel to all. I have a business degree in entrepreneurship and a minor in communication, and I was very broad in figuring out what I wanted to do. I went out to work in Los Angeles and Houston for my family's business and knew quickly that if I couldn't work for my earthly father, I might as well go and serve my heavenly father. I had help from my home Church, Christ the King in Kingwood, Texas, where they allowed me to be an intern for them, preach a tad, lead worship, and help as a Church planter-type worker at a lot of different places with a bunch of different mentors as well.

I am willing to put it all on the line for Jesus, and I hope that where I am sent, I can either think this way or am willing to allow myself to help lead people to that place because nothing matters more than Jesus. I am a team player, leader, and loyal. I will fight for souls in spite of the world's standard because that is what I am called and created to do. [*Vicar Joseph's last Sunday with us is July* 27. Vicar Paul will be with us on August 3]

## South Africa Mission Team 2025

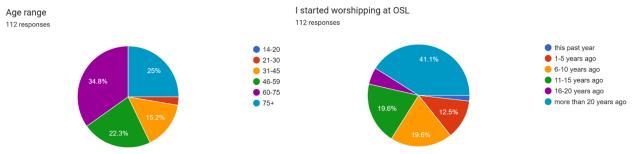
We are again sending a team of ambassadors to our mission partners in Middelburg, South Africa. The team consists of 18 people, including 2 OSL 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates and 4 OSL staff members. The trip is June 26 – July 8, and will involve serving at the Amajuba Orphanage, a VBS at St. Peter Christian College, Mama Grace Feeding Program, and working with Caring Friends, the community outreach team of St. Peter Confessional Lutheran Church in Middelburg. The team is thankful for all the prayers and support they have received for this trip. May God be glorified in this trip as we Build up the Kingdom of the Lord together! We are also thankful to the LCMS Michigan District for their Igniter Grant and the Church Extension Fund that gave a grant to support our team. A commissioning for this team will take place during worship on Sunday, June 22.



*Mission Team Members*: Faith Korte, Michelle Knauff, Don Feikema, Tammy Mazur, Hannah Wangelin, Sharon Voss, Kristin Wangelin, Mariya Feikema, Pastor Wangelin, Pastor Ed Filter, Kaitlynn Mews, Nancy Filter, Ryan McKendry, Kelsey McKendry, Melisa McKendry, Kaley McKendry (*not pictured*, Royce McKendry, Kathy Davenport).

# Vision Team Survey 2025

### Demographic breakdown for 112 responses



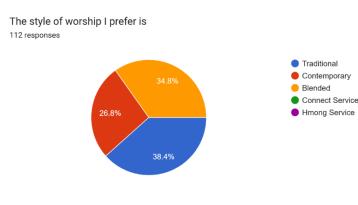
Male 28.6% / Female 71.4%

Married 73.2%, Single 12.5%, Widowed 14.3%

Children living at home 34.8% / Children living at home attend OSL (9), Grand Ledge Schools (8), Holt (1), DeWitt (1), Sexton (1), New Covenant (1), Lansing Catholic (1), Public (2), Homeschool (1), MSU (2), Hope College (1).

Attend most often Early Service 49.1% / Late Service 48.2% / Online 1.8% / Connect 0.9% Attend OSL weekly 83.9% / monthly 13.4% / a few times a year or rarely 2.7%

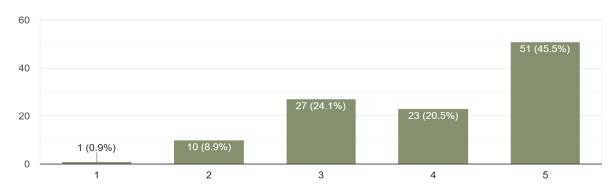
Belong to a small group or Bible Study: Yes – 61.6%, No – 38.4%



### What we like about worship:

Everything is great (3), Edifying Sermons (37), Great music (22), Spiritual edifying / helps me walk with Jesus / based on Scripture (21), Enjoy the gathering of believers / fellowship / family feel (17), I like traditional (11), Friendly / Welcoming (8), Variety in the services (7), I like that we have both contemporary and traditional (7), I like contemporary (5), Children's messages (3), Summer blended services (2), My kids are welcome (2), Seeing kids in worship (2), Livestream (1)

I read my Bible regularly



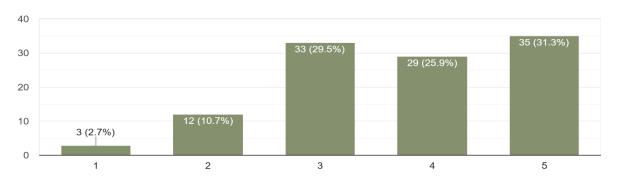
### Faith topics we would like to learn more about include:

How to share faith in Jesus (6), End Times / Revelation (6), Holy Spirit (4), Lutheran doctrine (4), Cultural / Moral issues in society (4), Bible History/Content (4), Heaven (3), Faith for families/children (2), OT foreshadowed Jesus (2), How to forgive (2), Spiritual warfare / angels (2), Grow deeper in relationship with Jesus (2), Stewardship (2), Prayer (2), Women in the Bible/Church (2), Comparison with other faiths (2), Grief (2), Bible reading (1), Apologetics (1), Problem of Evil / Suffering (1), Discipling (1), Creation (1), Marriage (1), Parenting (1), Justice today (1).

### Vision Team Survey 2025 summary continued....

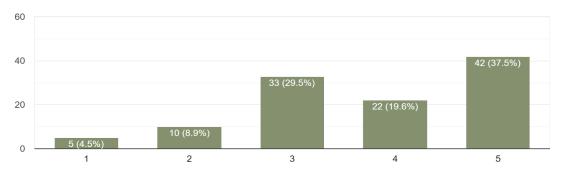
I have invited someone to OSL in the past year Yes 65.2% / No 34.8%

#### I feel confident sharing my faith with others 5 44.6%, 4 36.6%, 1-3 18.8%

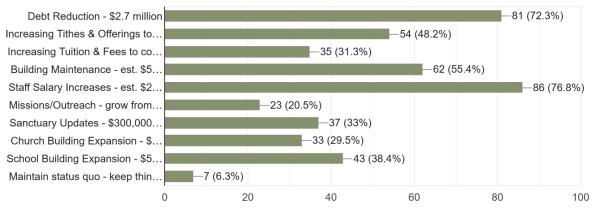


Our building currently meets the needs of our church and school 112 responses

Our church should pay off the current mortgage before taking on more debt 112 responses



A financial priority for our church and school in the next 3-5 years should be (check all that apply) 112 responses



I am glad that a portion of my offering goes to our **school ministry** 5 84.8%, 4 7.1%, 3 5.4%, 2 0.9%, 1 1.8% I feel our church is a **good steward** of our collective resources 5 83.4%, 4 24.1%, 3 9.8%, 2 1.8%, 1 0.9% THANK YOU to all who completed this survey. The Vision Team will review the results in depth and use them to guide our vision for the future.

# **Ministries to Families and Children**

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School is a place that helps families learn, live, and share Christ. The primary way we do this is through our **K-8 grade school** and **Early Childhood programs**, serving 265 children and their families with an all-encompassing faith experience in a Lutheran school setting. In both K8 and EC, students learn about God through chapel and Christian Studies, integrating Him into their lives. In addition, our church equips ALL families to learn, live, and share Christ, regardless of where they attend school.

### **Milestone Ministries**

Infant Faith Chest: Parents preparing for the birth of a child or with an infant Baptism: The first milestones and stepping stone of faith

<u>1st Grade 1st Bible</u>: Parents and children receive a Bible to read together
 <u>3rd Grade Money Management</u>: Parents and children discuss money
 <u>4th Grade Technology</u>: Parents and children talk about pros and cons of tech
 <u>7th Grade First Communion</u>: preparing students to receive the Lord's Supper

### **Family Events & Resources**

Family Service Sunday: Making cards, packing Thanksgiving baskets, etc.
Oktoberfest: A family-friendly community event with activities for kids
Young Family Advent Devotional: Made just for young families with coloring pages and devotions for the whole family
Living Nativity: Have the story of Christmas come alive for all ages
Daddy Daughter Dance: A night where dads and daughters had a devotion and a time for fun! (Watch for the Mother Son Dance coming soon!)
Lenten Take Home Piece: For all ages, but usually geared towards families
Easter Egg Hunt: Families do crafts, hunt Easter eggs, and hear the Gospel
Family Adventure Night: A night full of worship and fun for the whole family (This does not mean we won't ever have VBS again.)
Basketball Camp: A faith-filled weeklong evening basketball camp

### **Confirmation / Middle School Ministry**

**<u>7th-8th Confirmation</u>**: Instruction on the Bible and the Small Catechism, in our school or PSI, in a two-year program culminating on Confirmation Sunday <u>**7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Retreat**</u>: A weekend retreat to Camp Arcadia in October <u>**WinterBlast**</u>: A one night Youth Event for 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders in February

### **Connect Sunday Worship Service**

<u>Station Based</u>: Families do stations together for Visual Faith and Confession, usually with a take home piece

**Instruments and Flags**: During the songs our young worshippers are invited to get up and move and make a joyful noise!

<u>No Clean-Up Corner</u>: A place where kids can play and get some wiggles out <u>Snacks Station</u>: An option for when a snack just helps focus attention





### PANTHER CAMP AT OSL

Did you know that our Panther Camp is an important outreach opportunity? About 80% of campers in our summer camp are not members of OSL. We currently have 230 kids enrolled and a staff of 51.

### Weekly Chapel:

On Wednesdays over the summer, from 5 years old to 12, we have chapel in the sanctuary.

**Morning Muster**: Once a day meeting to go over the schedule, but also the verse, and theme of the week, and learn a song.

**Bible Time**: Each class has some time to spend in scripture with their counselors. The two oldest groups meet with Pastor Chris once a week.





### LCMS Youth Gathering 2025

There are 21 youth and adults attending the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA. Youth Director Kaitlynn Mews and a great parent team have done the coordinating, planning, and fund raising. The youth are thankful for the support of the congregation they received to attend this mountain-top faith experience with over 20,000 other Lutheran youth from around the country. A special blessing for those going to the gathering will take place during worship on Sunday, July 13.



# **Garden of Peace**

A special fund has been established by the estate of Bob & Judy Kulicamp called the Garden of Peace. Bob and Judy had a passion for supporting Christian Education throughout their lives, and found Our Savior to be a special place that is making an eternal difference. The Garden of Peace fund will make annual distributions to Our Savior Lutheran School for the next 20 years. The fund is held by Renaissance Financial and will be managed by the OSL Endowment Committee. There are three categories that the Garden of Peace will support:

Scholarships to a Christian High School – this is for any student who graduates from Our Savior Lutheran School, and can apply to any Christian high school (Lansing Christian, Lansing Catholic, etc.). Applications for the scholarship will be submitted to the Endowment Committee for approval.

<u>Scholarships to Our Savior Lutheran School</u> – this will be in addition to the Message of Hope Scholarship and will allow more students and more support for our school ministry. Applications for these scholarships will be distributed by the Tuition Assistance Committee and Administrators.

<u>School Ministry Support</u> – this will be general support for school needs as they arise, as determined by the Administrators. We pray this gives our school budget a boost to keep up with facility repairs and enhancements.

The first distribution from the Garden of Peace Fund came to OSL last month, and the Endowment Committee has been working on sharing the information with students eligible for the High School Scholarship and with Administrators on the OSL scholarship and school support components.

We are thankful for the love and prayers of Bob and Judy during their time with us at OSL, and the continued gift of generosity that will bless a generation of students at Our Savior Lutheran School and beyond! If you have included OSL in your end of life giving, let us know by filling out a **Declaration of Intent form**.

# Our Savior Lutheran School

### Faith and Learning Flourish at Our Savior

At Our Savior Lutheran School, faith and learning go hand in hand. Each day, our dedicated teachers and staff share the love of Jesus with students from preschool through 8th grade. In a nurturing, Christcentered environment, children grow in their faith, pursue academic excellence, and are shaped for a lifetime of Christian witness.

### 2024–2025 School Year Highlights at Our Savior Lutheran School Enrollment: K–8 Students: 198 Early Childhood Students: 65

### **Early Childhood Celebration**

Our Early Childhood program hosted the beloved annual **"I** Love You Tea" on the west lawn, bringing together over **230** young children and their families. Students baked and served cupcakes, creating a memorable and heartwarming time of fellowship.

### Thank You, Volunteers!

We are deeply grateful for the **countless hours** given by **parents**, **grandparents**, **and church family** members. Your time and love bless our school community in powerful ways—thank you!



**GOD IS OUR ROCK** He alone is my rock and my salvation,

my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.

### **Chapel Leadership**

**Kindergarten and 1st grade** students led spirited chapel services filled with **songs, hand motions, and scripture**. Their joyful enthusiasm and love for the Lord is contagious!

### 8th Grade Class Trip

Our 8th grade class, joined by 20 adults, embarked on an exciting trip to the **Cincinnati Zoo, Creation Museum, Ark Encounter, and King's Island**. Each day began with **devotions, praise, and worship**, keeping Christ at the center of the adventure.

### **Chapel Offerings Impact**

Through the generous giving of our students and families, **\$1,902** was raised. Beneficiaries included: **Sleep in Heavenly Peace, MOST Ministries** (Over **200 pairs** of eyeglasses and sunglasses collected!), **South Africa Mission Team.** 

#### **Investing in Learning**

Five OSL teachers attended a **six-day Orton-Gillingham Workshop**, learning a structured, multisensory approach to enhance literacy instruction. Way to go **Mrs. Seling, Mrs. Engelbrecht, and Miss Mazur!** 

### **Special Education Support**

Next year will be **30 years** of partnership with **Lutheran Special Education Ministries (LSEM)**! This year, we continued to benefit from the expertise of **Holly Kasper** and **Hillary Yager**, providing individualized support through our Resource Room and interventions.

### Projected Enrollment for the 2025-26 School Year

K-8 Grade: 200 students & Early Childhood: 65 students

# Financial Report 2024-2025

Year to Date Income and Expenses: July 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025								
	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budget				
	Income	Income	Expenses	Expenses				
Church	\$1,327,697.96	\$1,258,645.00	\$1,283,742.19	\$1,296,378.18				
K-8 School	\$1,024,887.52	\$953,158.33	\$877,710.23	\$912,043.85				
Early Childhood	\$558,042.68	\$587,895.83	\$578,119.89	\$590,230.43				
Total	\$2,910,628.16	\$2,799,699.16	\$2,739,572.31	\$2,798,652.46				
% of Budget	103.96%		97.89%					

Offerings Year to Date:

- In Person Offerings: \$713,855.75
- Online Offerings: \$466,952.57
- Special Services: \$2,300.00
- Total Offerings: \$1,183,108.32 (86.9% of Budget)

### Auction:

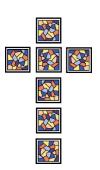
- Total Raised: \$106,819.68
- Message of Hope: \$40,525.00 (\$25,525 from Paddles and \$15,000 from Matching Grant)
- Total Expenses: \$7,188.85

### Mortgage Balances:

- Building Mortgage Balance: \$2,762,837.80 (Monthly Payment \$28,110)
- Parking Lot Balance: \$31,881.97 (Monthly Payment \$1,011)

### **Non-Budget Accounts**

Account Name	Balance as of May 23, 2025
Alms Fund	\$6,245.03
Chapel Money	\$683.20
Church Account	\$11,680.53
CityServe	\$2,166.47
Debt Reduction	\$3,514.74
Early Childhood Grant	\$137,987.71
Eighth Grade Trip	\$8,877.17
Endowment Fund: Vicar Fund	\$132,715.70
Food Bank	\$15,181.83
Garden of Peace	\$117,757.32
Hmong Ministry	\$3,804.87
Miscellaneous	\$16,794.30
Memorial Garden	\$10,555.38
PTL	\$6,188.77
School Account	\$5,541.30
South Africa Mission	\$22,978.73
Special Gifts	\$31,402.80
Student Council	\$3,566.94
Youth Gathering	(\$1,443.15)
Total	\$536,199.64



# **Our Savior Lutheran Budget 2025-2026**

OUR MISSION PLAN FOR THE COMING YEAR

### **Resources for Ministry (Income)**

- Budgeted a 3% increase in congregation giving over this year's <u>actual</u> contributions
- Increased tuition & enrollment fees for K-8, EC and Summer Camp
- Increased Hot Lunch Prices
- \$29,153 Budget Supplement from Neil and Eileen Fulton Estate
- \$38,350 Out of School Time Grant
- \$21,878 Garden of Peace Grant

### **Moving Ministry Forward (Expenses)**

- 2.5% average increase for salaried staff
- \$2.00 increase for hourly staff
- Behavioral Interventionist position and 4 additional hours per week for LSEM
- Changing Health Care Provider with estimated savings of \$27,000.
- Gym floor refinishing & staff appreciation
- Expanded Mission support to South Africa (\$1,000), Hmong Ministry (\$1,000) and doubled support to Michigan District (\$10,000)

Income	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
General Contributions & Offerings	\$ 1,361,503	\$ 1,403,055	\$ 41,552
K-8 School Tuition	847,200	894,101	46,901
Early Childhood Tuition/Extended Care	464,225	485,550	21,325
Summer Camp	201,000	240,000	39,000
Fundraiser (Auction)	61,800	66,565	4,765
Programs	164,386	131,671	(32,715)
Grants, Sponsorships & Special Gifts (Education Grants, etc.)	79,400	102,806	23,406
Message of Hope Scholarship Fund	80,000	80,000	0
Reserve Fund Budget Supplement	100,000	29,153	(70,847)
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 3,359,514	\$ 3,432,901	\$ 73,387
Expenses	2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
Church Ministries (Worship, Music, Children & Youth, Family Life, Bible Studies)	\$ 62,525	\$ 63,667	\$ 1,142
School Ministries (K-8, Early Childhood/Extended Care, Summer Camp, Hot Lunch, Athletics)	146,313	158,939	12,626
Operations (Copiers, Phones, Internet, Office Supplies, etc.)	76,363	80,960	4,597
Facility (Cleaning, Maintenance, Utilities, Snow Removal, Landscaping, etc.)	219,600	231,475	11,875
Mortgage Payment (Building Monthly Payment \$28,110 and Parking Lot Monthly Payment \$1,011)	349,452	339,342	(10,110)
Outreach Ministries (MI District, Friendship House, Community Outreach, etc.)	10,900	21,150	10,250
Staff Salaries	1,869,251	1,944,625	75,374
Staff Benefits	623,979	592,593	(31,386)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,358,383	\$ 3,432,751	\$ 74,368

THANK YOU to all who make this ministry possible with your gifts so that TOGETHER we can *Learn, Live, Share... Christ!* 

# FAMILY ADVENTURE NIGHT Wednesday, June 18 | 5:30-8:00pm

Instead of a traditional VBS, we invite all families of all ages to join us for one FAN-tastic night together for food, games, activities, a service project, fun, and worship! This means young families, old families, empty nesters and everyone in between!



Family Crafts and Games



Pizza, Salad & Breadsticks



Worship & Service Project

Check out the Church Lobby or oursaviorlansing.org for more information.

# **SUMMER WORSHIP TIMES** Begins Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>

Sundays: 9:30am online & in-person

# Mondays: 7:00pm



