

Our Saviour's & Balsamlung Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News

August 8, 2021

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 8/8/21—8/14/21

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SUNDAY- Deuteronomy 33:1-29

MONDAY- Joshua 23:1-16

TUESDAY- Joshua 24:1-28

WEDNESDAY- 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

THURSDAY- 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16

FRIDAY- 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3-13

SATURDAY- 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

8/8/21

9am Fellowship

10am OSLC Worship

5:30 Balsamlund Campfire Worship

8/11/21

9am Ladies Coffee Hub 71

5pm Finance Mtg.

8/15/21

8:30am Balsamlund Worship

9am Fellowship

10am OSLC Worship

Balsamlund Announcements

We had such a great response to our Sunday evening camp service that we're doing it again! Sunday, August 8th, we will gather for hot dogs at 5:30pm and worship to follow at 6pm instead of our 8:30am worship time. Join us for camp songs and worship!

OSLC Announcements

*Thank you everyone for making the Potato Booth a success this year. I commend Brenda and Les for their past leadership on this service project for the past few years. It definitely is a challenge and exhausting endeavor. We made just a little over \$3000 after expenses this year. I call that huge success and we couldn't have done that without the support of OSLC family. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Alicia & Janet

*Summer office hours will be as follow Monday 9am-2pm, Tuesday 8-3, Wednesday 8-3, Thursday 8-3, Friday closed.

*Thank you to all of my family and friends who came to help me celebrate my 90th birthday. It was a great day! Betty Siirila

This summer, our family has been growing wildflowers in our front yard, and it has brought such joy to every one of us to see how things have grown and blossomed. I read a post on social media called "Lessons from Wildflowers" by Morgan Harper Nichols and it really resonated with me. I wanted to share it with you (along with a picture from our wildflower garden, because why not?) Here it is.

If you ever happen to see a field of wildflowers containing more than one more species, there's a reason for that.

In the book "Eight Master Lessons from Nature," author Gary Ferguson writes about how each wild-flower has its own strength and together, they create diversity in the landscape. Some have deeper roots to help them survive during the drought and others have waxy leaves to contain moisture.

Every flower has different survival strategies and as a result, they are able to keep the ecosystem going, surviving through harsh conditions to give the other flowers time to recover.

In this book, Ferguson goes on to quote Maya Angelou, who advised parents to teach their children, "that in diversity there is beauty and there is strength."

We cannot survive without each other and the diversity of our strengths. We learn from the wildflowers that we belong to each other and our strengths support one another.

As Gwendolyn Brooks wrote in her poem for singer and activist Paul Robeson, "We are each other's harvest; we are each other's magnitude and bond." Who are we without each other? What is the landscape without diversity?

May the wide range of wildflowers in this meadow remind you of what your soul already knows: we are strong in different ways and that is what helps us all grow.

Together, we will grow.
Together, we will grow.
may the wildflowers teach us:
together, we will grow.

Our beauty is in our wholeness. Our aliveness is in our togetherness. - Morgan Harper Nichols

I hope that this blesses you as it has me in these days of growth and change.

Grace + Peace, Pastor Eric

