

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church**

1015 Veneta  
Bremerton, WA 98337

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JULY/AUGUST 2022

Pastor: Paul Meeker

Office Manager: Ashley Esguerra

Organist/Choir Dir: Cynthia Rennie

Treasurer: Sharon Smith

Custodian: Art Claflin

Church Office #: (360) 479-6374

Email: [OSLC.Bremerton@gmail.com](mailto:OSLC.Bremerton@gmail.com)

Website: [www.OSLCBremerton.org](http://www.OSLCBremerton.org)

Sycamore Tree Preschool:

Director: Andrea Campbell

# (360) 792-2213



Join us for **IN PERSON WORSHIP** or on Facebook  
LIVE on Sundays for our worship at 10:00 a.m.

To connect to our LiveStream click on the "Facebook  
Live" link on our website [www.oslcbremerton.org](http://www.oslcbremerton.org)

# Joyful News



## Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Newsletter

A message from Pastor Meeker

It is Summer time. Time to be outdoors at night and gaze at stars in the sky. Some enjoy night sky star apps that educate people about stars, constellations, planets and more.

Summer is a wonderful time to do some gazing. The nights are comfortable and the skies are frequently clear so we can see the beauty of the night time sky.

People have been enjoying gazing into the night sky of creation since people walked on earth. God encourages and the Bible talks about such experiences.

For example, when God was talking with Abraham in Genesis 11 about having many descendants, "Look toward the heavens and count the stars... So shall be the number of your descendants."

Another example, God used stars to make a point in Daniel where and when God told him, "Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

Of course, then there is King David in the book of Psalms who says, "When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established, what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals, that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.

Enjoy joining God, Abraham, Daniel, David and many others who enjoy what God creates, especially star gazing.

Delight in the Pentecost Spirit, Pastor *Paul Meeker*

*We thank God for everyone who helps in the mission and ministry of this congregation through their faith witness of words and actions. Thank you for your faithfulness.*

***Bible study offerings: Monday mornings, 10 A.M. in the Fireside Room, The Book of Acts. Other small group Bible studies take place in various locales and at different times. Watch and listen for related announcements. All are invited to our Bible study opportunities.***



# SYCAMORE TREE PREESCHOOL

## GOLD MOUNTAIN GOLF TOURNAMENT

Thank you to those of you who were able to support our golf tournament fundraiser. We had a good turnout and raised \$1000.00.

## ANNUAL CLOTHING DRIVE

Thank you to all our volunteers who helped load all the bags! We collected 6677 pounds of clothing and soft textile items and raised over \$1500.00 after expenses were deducted..

Please keep collecting bags for our annual clothing drive. We will plan on delivering another truck load June 2023.

## BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Are you interested in joining the preschool board? We meet once a month (September – June) via zoom. The Board coordinates our annual fundraisers and works together on the budget and facility improvements. If you are interested, please let us know. This is a fun and easy way to get involved in OSLC's preschool ministry.

## SUMMER VACATION

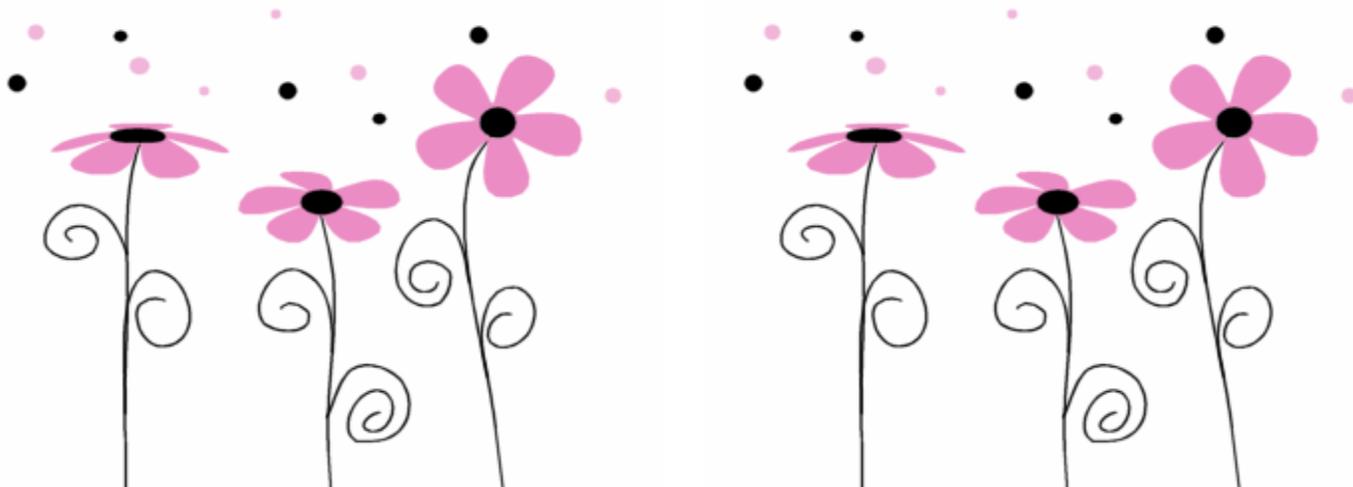
No classes will be held this year during July and August. Our school year ended in June and now our staff is enjoying a well-deserved break!

## FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS

**HAVE YOU SIGNED UP???** If not done this yet, **PLEASE** take a few moments to sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Sycamore Tree Preschool at [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards). You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number: **VA359**.

Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping the Sycamore Tree Preschool earn a donation!

You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today. If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store. We have earned **\$4731.81** since March 2014.



# STEWARDSHIP NEWS

*Our Stewardship Committee has been encouraging gifts to the ELCA's World Hunger Appeal and the seven seminaries of the ELCA. You may be asking what other ministries the ELCA supports. Here are six major ministries:*

**Fund for Leaders** scholarship program supports students of tremendous promise attending ELCA seminaries. By making seminary more affordable, the ELCA Fund for Leaders enables more future ministers to go to seminary and helps them graduate with less debt, empowering those whom God calls into ministry to go and serve as the church needs and the Holy Spirit leads.

**Global Mission** Rooted and built in Jesus! This is the core of our work as the ELCA walks with more than 80 companion churches in other countries to participate in God's reconciling mission through proclamation and service. Participating in these relationships, ELCA members see how people's lives are touched by the gospel, how their lives are transformed and renewed, and how their communities live in hope. Our living, daring confidence in God's grace propels us, along with our companions, to say "yes" to a world searching for renewal and wholeness. As part of a global Lutheran community, we gratefully receive the witness of global brothers and sisters whose faith, hospitality, resilience and zeal energize us and our own congregations. In response, we share our gifts and talents to address the root causes of poverty and hunger and meeting human needs, fight HIV and AIDS, build communities that coexist in peace, and prepare women and men to preach the good news of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

**World Hunger** Working through ELCA congregations, global companion churches, The Lutheran World Federation and other partners like Bread for the World, Church World Service, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and Lutheran World Relief, the ELCA reaches more places more effectively than we could ever do alone. In addition to funding relief and development projects that assist our sisters and brothers in need, we engage members of the ELCA in education and advocacy to help change the systems that perpetuate poverty.

more

### **Young Adults in Global**

**Mission** The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program invites ELCA young adults ages 21-29 into a transformative, year-long journey in international service. As they offer themselves in service, ELCA young adults are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors. They share in the journeys of companion churches and organizations in one of nine countries around the world. A year of service through the Young Adults in Global Mission program invites young adults to become the hands and feet of Jesus in the world, providing critical support to ministries and projects in communities of need. It also invites volunteers into a journey of self-reflection, providing space to consider their sense of identity, God's work in the world, and their place within it all.

**Missionaries** We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Over 240 ELCA missionaries serve in more than 40 countries around the world, invited by global church partners to work together hand-in-hand. Some are doctors in rural areas. Others teach children where there are few opportunities to go to school, or work in seminaries that prepare pastors and future church leaders. Others support, nurture and preach in some of the fastest growing Lutheran congregations in the world. No matter where or how they serve, every one of these missionaries needs your prayers, support and gifts to succeed in their work. Your gift connects you directly to these missionaries. You make their life-changing ministry happen.

# STEWARDSHIP

**International Women Leaders** Today, women represent 70 percent of the world's population living in poverty and are often underserved by a lack of access to education and training. The ELCA believes the time has come for a strong, strategic emphasis on supporting and empowering international women leaders in the life and development of the church and society. Through the International Women Leaders program, we are boldly investing in established and emerging women leaders from our global companion churches. Your gifts will help support the education of 200 additional international women through educational seminars, south-to-south exchanges, in-country study programs, and degree programs at ELCA colleges and universities.

# Council Meeting Summary

1. OPENING DEVOTIONS:

2. APPROVAL OF MAY 2022 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (NEEDS VOTE)

3. APPROVAL OF MAY 2022 TREASURER'S REPORT (NEEDS VOTE)

4. STAFF REPORTS:

PASTOR PAUL MEEKER:

\* Planning community activities with Veneta Ave. Pastor Ken Hegvedt for shared Advent & Lent 2023 worship services, community garden, 2023 Christian Unity services.

\* Pastor's continuing education time at Wartburg Seminary & Festival of Homiletics was excellent. Time was well spent doing research & preparation for upcoming sermons and experiencing the theme of 'After The Storm: Preaching and Trauma.

\* We still Need Martha & Mary Delegates, and Lutherhaven Board Representatives.

\* Wednesdays on Wildcat (WOW) will run July 6 thru August 10, 6:00-8:30 pm. Bring 1 Potluck item. OSLC Camp July 15-21. All Church Camp takes place July 29-8/3.

SYCAMORE TREE PRE-SCHOOL

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PROPERTY & FINANCE:

\* New water lines have fixed the water leak near the Sycamore Tree Preschool.

\* Fire Inspection Report.

\* Update on the ADA access project.

WITNESSING/EVANGELISM:

\* Office Administrator Ashley is working on initial formats for Bulk Mailings postcards.

\* Select date to receive Buggy Canon as a new member.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

\* Celebrate the ELCA Synod Day of Service "God's Work. Our Hands" by helping out at Bremerton Foodbank in the fall (perhaps OSLC members do 4 hour shifts various days?)

\* Discuss immediate and long-term future vision & planning ideas for our worship, learning, serving, witnessing/evangelism, youth/family, finance, and facilities ministries.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

\* Discuss re-opening Church activities post COVID: classes, coffee hour, fellowship...

\* Father's Day Picnic at Lutherhaven

8. ADJOURN MEETING



## Message on 2022 Budget

Dear fellow members of OSLC:

I am proud to be a member of OSLC, which has been in existence for over 125 years, and our congregation members have always stepped up to meet all challenges.

These last two and one-half years have been tough for our Nation, State, and our Church due to Covid and the lockdowns. Throughout it all, OSLC has continued to provide worship services, both in person and on-line streaming, as well as opening our facility to outside groups.

In 2021, we experienced a fiscal shortfall, which the congregation overcame. For the first two months of 2022, we continued to show positive numbers. However, the last three months offerings have not kept pace with expenses.

It has always been Pastor's and Council's policy to be open and transparent with the congregation. That said, please review the chart below. As of the end of May 2022, our expenses exceeded our income leaving a deficit of (\$16,165.00)

2022	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Proof
<b>Income:</b>						
<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	\$ 1,963.00	\$ 6,845.00	\$ 3,437.00	\$ (5,072.00)	\$ (15,891.00)	\$ 1,963.00
<b>Offerings</b>	\$ 17,722.00	\$ 11,992.00	\$ 10,941.00	\$ 14,190.00	\$ 10,982.00	\$ 65,827.00
<b>Holding Account</b>	\$ 3,500.00					\$ 3,500.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	\$ 23,185.00	\$ 18,837.00	\$ 14,378.00	\$ 9,118.00	\$ (4,909.00)	\$ 71,290.00
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	\$ (16,340.00)	\$ (15,400.00)	\$ (19,450.00)	\$ (25,009.00)	\$ (11,256.00)	\$ (87,455.00)
<b>Balance carry forward:</b>	\$ 6,845.00	\$ 3,437.00	\$ (5,072.00)	\$ (15,891.00)	\$ (16,165.00)	\$ (16,165.00)

If this trend continues, we could show a deficit by year-end of (\$36,000.00). Pastor and Council have discussed this current shortfall and developed some possible solutions for the congregation's consideration.

### Short term solutions:

**Additional offerings:** If members have been waiting to makeup offerings or give additional offerings, now would be the time.

**Using OSLC saving reserves for operating:** Current trend, if we use them, we would be out of reserves within the next year to year-and-a-half. **Once the reserves are gone, they are gone.**

**Go from full-time Pastor to Part-time Pastor, with possible other staff reductions:** Although it may not be the case for all businesses, salaries and benefits by far are our largest expense.

**Is it time to re-evaluate Benevolences:** We have always taken pride in that benevolences are paid first out of offerings. However, it might be time to use these funds toward OSLC?

**Find new occupants to rent our unused church space,** provided it falls within current IRS rules.

### Long term solutions:

**Increase membership:** therefore, increase offerings.

**Combining congregations and sharing resources.**

**Include OSLC in your Estate planning.**

As always, Pastor and Council would encourage you sharing your thoughts and input regarding this current fiscal situation.

*Philip C. Cornish, Council Vice President & Budget Chair*



## School kits on the horizon!

With summer upon us it is time to start watching for school supply sales for our school kits. These items are assembled in the fall and shipped all over the world through Lutheran World Relief. There is a box for collections in the fellowship hall. If you have difficulty with shopping, Bob Becker has offered to purchase items for you. Please contact Bob.

Items needed for kits: 70 sheet notebooks, 1 ruler that includes centimeters, pencil sharpener, blunt scissors, black or blue ballpoint pens, crayons (16 or 24 count), 2 ½" eraser and pencils (although we do have a fair amount of pencils still on hand).

Intergenerational events at Lutherhaven, *Wednesdays on Wildcat* (WOW) will begin July 6 and end August 10 meeting from 6-8:30 P.M. We will gather every Wednesday during this time for food (potluck with meat, condiments and beverage provided), recreation, devotion and fellowship. Other upcoming Lutherhaven dates include *Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Camp* July 15-21 and *All Church Camp* July 29-August 3.

# The Kitsap Ride for Refugees (formerly the Reform Ride) is back for August 20!

All the proceeds from this fun event will go toward Ukrainian and Afghan refugees who are finding their new homes in the Pacific Northwest. The Ride is a collaboration between five local Lutheran churches (Silverdale Lutheran, Our Savior's, Bethany, First Lutheran, and Vinland) and Lutheran Community Services Northwest, and is a great way for the community to come together for a great cause.

**There are lots of ways to get involved!**

## Ride!

Register to ride in either a 10- or 30- mile course, starting and ending at Silverdale Lutheran Church.



## Be a Sponsor!

Donations will go toward helping refugee families with case management, food, rent, child care, transportation and many other vital services provided by LCSNW.

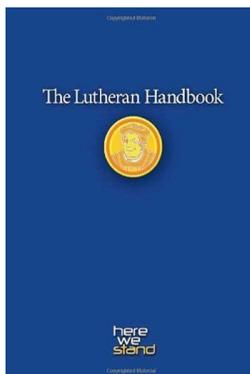
Checks can be made out and mailed to Silverdale Lutheran Church with the memo line "Ride for Refugees."

## Volunteer!

There's a volunteer job for everyone! Needed volunteers include:

- ⇒ Cheerleaders at the finish line!
- ⇒ Route marshals
- ⇒ Beer garden helpers
- ⇒ Check-in folks
- ⇒ Water stop helpers
- ⇒ Swag baggers
- ⇒ Many more!

Email [reformride@lcsnw.org](mailto:reformride@lcsnw.org) with any questions or to get involved. Thank you!



Lutheran Handbooks will be available for sale at the church for a donation of \$10.00

## All Church Camp Registration!

Campers and counselors should soon register and/or apply for the Camper, Counselor, or Kitchen Helper positions. Registration and Medical forms are available at [www.olympiclutherhaven.org](http://www.olympiclutherhaven.org). Anyone interested in relieving or just helping a cook for a meal, a day, or a couple days or helping with Crafts are welcome to also apply. It is a rewarding experience to see and hear Bible Camp Children and teenagers at their best. Registration fees for each Camper are \$275 through June 24, then late registration will be \$300 through July 15 for the 6 days of Camp. Registration scholarships or reductions will be considered if funds are available. Contact Bob Arper by email ([b.arper@comcast.net](mailto:b.arper@comcast.net)) or phone (360-440-0572) for questions or information about volunteering.



OSLC is looking to hire a paid Treasurer (part time). Please contact the church office or speak with Phil Cornish if you or someone you know is interested.

SAIL exercise classes are back!! Classes will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2-3 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall! Please consider joining us!! If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Tertocha at 360-697-2807. It will be good to be together again!

# SAIL CLASSES



# CARING MINISTRY

## Birthdays:

Larry Reiersen	7/1
Lisbeth Lusk	7/2
Charles Baumgaertner	7/10
Ann Baumgaertner	7/14
Charlotte Pedersen	7/21
Alaina Queen	7/29
Lillian Derry	8/8
Marvin Laurila	8/12
Paul Sherman	8/20

## Anniversaries:

Ruth & Richard Richtmyer	7/6
Kathy & Will Gaddis	7/7
Catherine & Austin Derry	7/14
Paul & Tine Sherman	7/30
Larry & Elsie Burgua	8/21

## IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

To include someone in the prayers, please speak to Pastor Meeker, or call the church office (479-6374) at any time. Names will be included for at least four weeks. Should you wish, you may submit them again to the Pastor or church office. We encourage you to take this bulletin home and include these people in your daily prayers.

## FOR THOSE WITH HEALTH CONCERNS

Ardie Meeker, Kim Bach, Ron Bright, Don Kiechaefer, Linda, Lisa Rolfe, Debbie Tertocha, Diane, Amy, Kate & family, Lois, Toni, Tony, Mary, Denise, Lynne, Mathew, Marvin Laurilla

## ACTIVE MILITARY

For all of our troops who are deployed



# JULY 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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1 2

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:45 a.m. Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Worship Committee	<i>Independence Day</i> 	6:30 p.m. NA Women	2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women			10:00 a.m. Quilting 

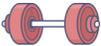
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:45 a.m. Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Worship 	10:00 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women	5:00 p.m. SON Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. NA Women	2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women 			

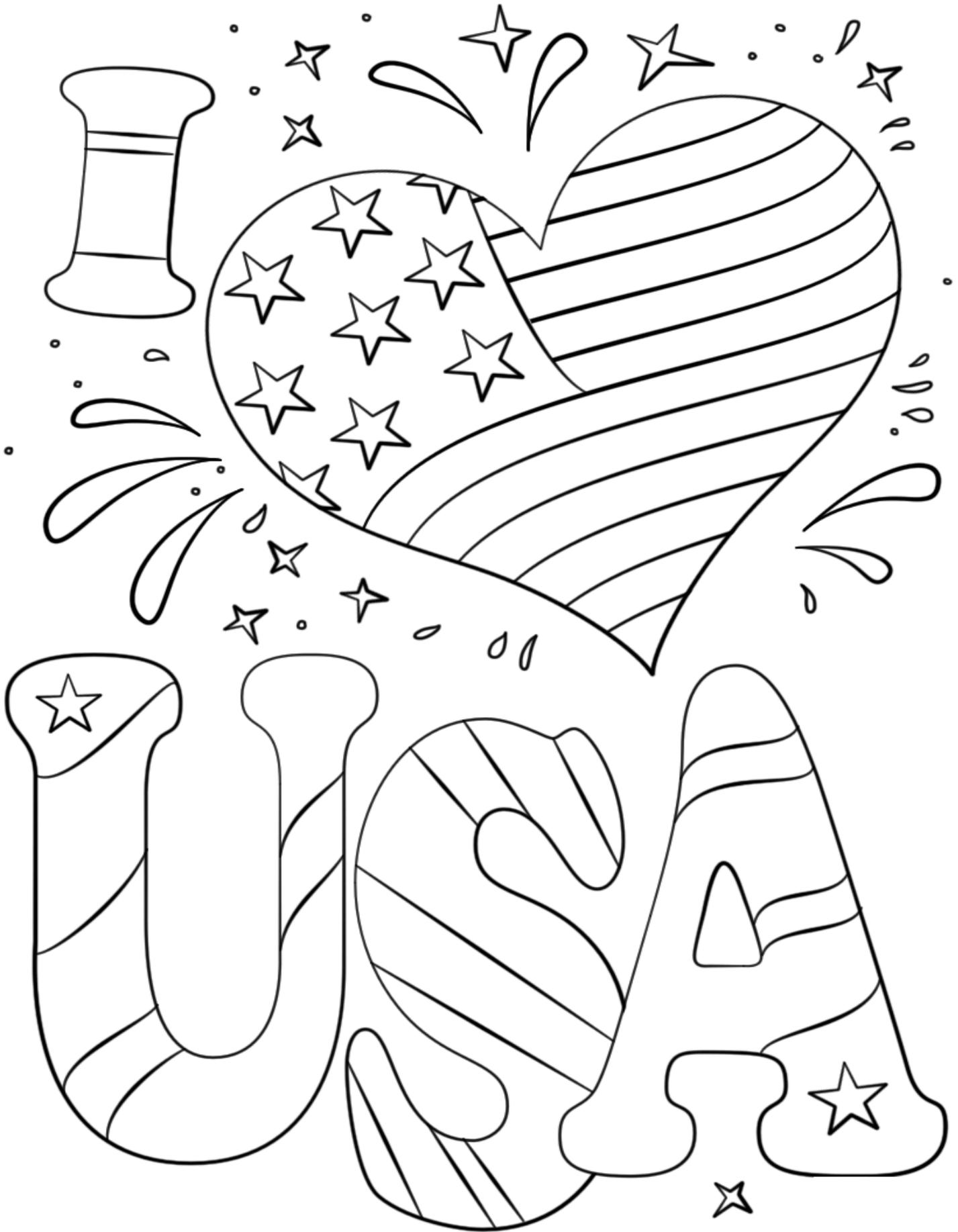
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:45 a.m. Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Worship 	10:00 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women 	6:30 p.m. NA Women	2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women	10:00 a.m. Esther/Shalom Cir/Third Thur Bible Study		

24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:45 a.m. Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Worship 	10:00 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women 	6:30 p.m. NA Women	2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women 			

31
10:00 a.m. Worship 

# August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women 	<b>2</b> 6:30 p.m. NA Women	<b>3</b> 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women	<b>4</b> 	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Worship Committee  WORSHIP WITH US!	<b>8</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women 	<b>9</b> 5:00 p.m. Council 6:30 p.m. NA Women	<b>10</b> 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women	<b>11</b> 	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10:00 a.m. Quilting 
<b>14</b> 10:00 a.m. Worship 	<b>15</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women	<b>16</b> 5:00 p.m. SON Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. NA Women	<b>17</b> 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women 	<b>18</b> 10:00 a.m. Esther/Shalom Cir/Third Thur Bible Study	<b>19</b> 7:30 p.m. Private Group	<b>20</b> 6:00 p.m. Private Group
<b>21</b> 10:00 a.m. Worship 	<b>22</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women	<b>23</b> 6:30 p.m. NA Women	<b>24</b> 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women 	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 10:00 a.m. Worship 	<b>29</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women 	<b>30</b> 6:30 p.m. NA Women	<b>31</b> 2:00 p.m. SAIL 6:00 p.m. NA Women 			



# Cactus

