

Our Savior's Emergency Short Message Service (SMS)

As uncomfortable as it may be to do so, imagine a disaster that forces our children from the safety of our campus. Now, imagine where you might be when this happens: at work, at lunch, at the gym?

If disaster strikes, how will you find out?

As part of our well designed Emergency Operations and Recovery Plan, we have incorporated the latest technologies available to us so that we may keep you as informed and up-to-date as possible. One of the primary, and most efficient means on hand is our Short Message Service provided by Blackboard Connect.

With SMS, your cell phone or text device will receive a short 160-character text message that contains the most important and basic facts in regards to an emergency, such as the existence of an emergency, our response to that emergency, our location should we evacuate, and our web URL where you can find all the details. There's no need to answer the phone while driving, or attempt to hear and then write down all the information. As an Emergency SMS text message, all the information is saved so that you can safely refer to it when you are able to.

Our Emergency SMS text messaging system is designated for use solely as an emergency communications channel. You will never receive an event announcement or school function reminder via SMS. If an emergency does occur, then an SMS text message will be sent out along with companion messages via our other communications channels: Email and Voice Message. The SMS and Voice Message are designed to alert you to the event of an emergency, and to direct you to your Email and our website's Emergency Bulletin Board where you will find detailed information about the situation.

How To Receive Our Savior's Emergency SMS Text Messages

If you have a cell phone or text device number registered with us, then you should have received a confirmation text message similar to the following:

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN: You are set to receive txt alerts per acct settings. For more info text reply "HELP". To opt out, reply "STOP SAVIORS" Msg&data rates may apply.

If you choose to accept receipt of our Emergency SMS text messages, then you need to do nothing.

You can program your cell phone or text device to identify all Our Savior's Emergency SMS text messages. All confirmation text messages and subsequent alerts will come from **23177** or **63079**. Please save these numbers and program them as [Our Savior's SMS] so you can quickly recognize these numbers as the official sources of Our Savior's Lutheran School messages.

If you did not receive a confirmation message, then you can subscribe by texting the word <SUBSCRIBE> to either **23177** or **63079**. If you are already in our system you will receive the following reply:

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN: This phone number has already been opted in. More info text reply "HELP" or "STOP SAVIORS" to opt-out

If you do not receive this reply, then call the school office and ask to have your cell phone or text device number added to our system.

If you choose not to accept our Emergency SMS Text Messages, you may opt out by texting the word <STOP SAVIORS> to either **23177** or **63079**.

As with all SMS text messages, some rates may apply if you do not already have a text messaging plan with your mobile provider. Keep in mind that we will only use this service for emergencies, and if we ever do have to send out an SMS test message, that is one small fee you will be grateful to pay.

Whatever your decision, you may opt in or opt out at any time, and as many times as you wish by following the above procedures; however, as long as you have children at our Savior's, we urge you to accept our SMS text messages.