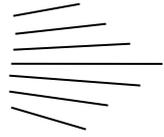




THE

# VOICE



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The monthly newsletter of Our Savior Lutheran Church  
1103 N Broad St., Mankato, MN 56001 **SEPTEMBER 2025**

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## **Polka Music and Picnic Sunday, September 7 Music from 10:45 - noon**

Join us at Tourtelotte Park to  
listen to some Polka Music  
provided by the Jolly Ramblers  
and have a picnic lunch.

Food, water, plates, and utensils are provided.

Please bring a lawn chair if you are able. There are a few picnic tables available. There is playground equipment for the kids, and restrooms will be available.

For those who need a sidewalk to navigate, park on Mable Street. For all others, parking is available on 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

We hope you'll join us.  
Bring your dancing shoes!

## Contact Info:

Church Office: Phone: 507-385-2180  
Fax: 507-345-5113  
contact@oslcmandato.org  
www.oslcmandato.org  
www.facebook.com/oslcmandato

Senior Pastor Office phone: 507-385-2183  
Rev. Adam Matheny: matheny@oslcmandato.org  
Emergency number: 812-449-6866

Associate Pastor Office phone: 507-385-2185  
Rev. John Koopman: pastorjohnkoopman@gmail.com  
Emergency number: 712-852-6095

Secretary Office phone: 507-385-2180  
Sue Hendrickson: sue@oslcmandato.org

Custodian Cell phone: 507-594-8515  
Doug Clausen doug@oslcmandato.org

Music Coordinator Home phone: 507-341-4173  
Suzie Gangi suzie@oslcmandato.org

Office hours are Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 8:00 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Unless there is an activity or event taking place, please use the Broad Street entrance by the mailbox.

In case of emergency or urgent need, our pastors are available at all hours and all days by calling their cell phone. Please use the office phone for other business. Please also remember that Sunday morning and other worship times are not for bringing church business to other members or staff but for focusing upon the Word and gifts of God. "The seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work." - Exodus 20:10

Jesus Christ: The Same Yesterday, Today, and Forever  
-Hebrews 13:8

In a world of constant change—where trends fade, relationships shift, and uncertainties loom—Hebrews 13:8 offers an anchor for our souls. Jesus Christ is unchanging, eternal, and steadfast. This truth invites us to rest in His unwavering nature, finding peace and purpose in every season of life. Yesterday, Jesus was the Word made flesh, the Savior who walked among us, healed the broken, and gave His life on the cross. His love and sacrifice laid the foundation for our salvation, a work completed and perfect. Today, He is the risen Lord, interceding for us, guiding us through the Holy Spirit, and present in every moment of joy or trial. Forever, He reigns as the King of kings, promising an eternal future where we will dwell with Him in glory. This unchanging nature of Christ is our rock. When life feels unsteady—whether through loss, doubt, or shifting circumstances—we can trust that Jesus remains constant. His promises never fail; His character never wavers. The same compassion that moved Him to heal the sick fuels His care for us now. The same power that raised Him from the dead works in us today. The same glory that awaits Him secures our hope for eternity. Let this truth shape how we live. Instead of chasing fleeting things, we can cling to the One who never changes. In prayer, seek His steady presence. In decisions, trust His timeless wisdom found in His Word. In worship, praise Him for His eternal faithfulness. Jesus is our constant, our compass, our King. Rest in Him today, knowing He was, is, and always will be the same—forever faithful, forever good.

*Lord Jesus, thank You for being my unchanging Savior. Help me trust Your steady love and live every day as your beloved child. Amen.*

## God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

*“There is nothing worth comparing to this lifelong comfort sure! Open eyed my grave is staring: even there I'll sleep secure. Though my flesh awaits its raising, still my soul continues praising: I am baptized into Christ; I'm a child of paradise.” - 594:5*

If you're like many lifelong Lutherans, you don't remember your baptism, because you were baptized as an infant. For that reason, we may at times undervalue the great treasure which we have in the sacrament of Holy Baptism. As such, the hymn *God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It* (LSB 594), is a phenomenal reminder of what baptism does for us.

The hymn begins by establishing the basic fact of what baptism accomplishes in my life: in these waters His sacrifice on the cross is applied to me and God's name is placed upon me, adopting me as God's child. God the Father is **my** Father, and I have all of the rights and privileges of God's children.

Stanzas 2, 3, & 4 confront the “unholy trinity” of sin, satan, and death which baptism defeats. Sin no longer can disturb my soul, because through baptism Jesus' cleansing sacrifice has cleansed me of all my sins. My guilty conscience needs trouble me no more, since my sins are washed away in baptism, washed away in the flood of Jesus' blood. Baptism doesn't merely forgive us our sins committed prior to baptism, but baptism is made new for us every time we confess our sins and are absolved for Christ's sake.

This hymn even calls out Satan, confronts him head-on, and declares that the devil has nothing over us anymore,

since God has united with us in baptism, and therefore gives us the strength to overcome Satan's temptations and accusations. The devil is not so mighty, anymore, since I am baptized into Christ.

The final enemy, death, cannot end my gladness anymore. Death, for the Christian, is not the end of happiness, but the end of the sorrows of this life, and the beginning of paradise. Even when we die, and our bodies decay over centuries in graves, we hold onto faith that because our bodies have been sanctified in holy baptism, He who has begun that good work will bring it to completion in the resurrection on the last day when our bodies rise from the grave, and we stand forever as children of paradise. Nothing can frighten us anymore, not even the open eyed grave can make us tremble, for the comfort we have in baptism conquers all fears. Indeed, what joy is ours in these blessed waters, a treasure and comfort beyond compare: I am baptized into Christ!

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## Congregational Meeting



## Special Voters' Meeting

September 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:45am

Join us Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>

following the late morning service for a Special Voters' Meeting. We will be considering a resolution from the Board of Trustees, and recommended by the Church Council, regarding the replacement of the work needed for the Narthex Air Conditioner unit at an estimated cost of \$16,000. All Confirmed members age 18 and older are invited to come and be a part of discussing the business of the church.

# *Council Meeting*

MINUTES – Our Savior Lutheran Church  
1103 North Broad St - Mankato, MN  
August 12, 2025

Members Present: Dan Gahler, Zak Tess, Sharon Anderson, Chris Anderson, Denise Painter, Rob Hobbs, Gene Mensing, Nancy Benson, Pastor Koopman, Pastor Matheny

Absent: Judy Hendley, Joel Maunula, Samantha Tess, G. Fladland

1. Meeting was called to order by President Dan Gahler at 6:40 p.m.
2. Pastor Matheny opened with prayer.
3. Public/Congregation Presentation: None
4. Bible Study of Luke 19; led by Zak. Next month Luke 20.
5. Addition/Approval of Agenda: Narthex/AC

MOTION made and SECONDED to approve the Council agenda as updated. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Approval of July 8, 2025 Council Minutes:

MOTION made and SECONDED to approve the July 8, 2025 Council Minutes. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Pastors' Reports

Pastor Matheny: Spoke about himself and Pastor Koopman teaching a New Testament class at Mankato Christian Academy beginning in September. Discussion regarding OSLC/LCMS Biblical practice of closed communion.

8. Treasurer's Report – Dan reported for Treasurer Gary Fladland

MOTION made and SECONDED to approve the July 31, 2025 OSLC Treasurer's report. MOTION CARRIED.

9. Unfinished Business

- a. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update

Dan reported on the agenda of activities for Sunday, August 17. Planning for approximately 200 people. Ready to celebrate!

- b. Congregation Notification - On hold.
- c. Status regarding OSLC Constitution/Bylaws

Judd Schultz is continuing work on the constitution/bylaws with advice from Joe Gangi, Attorney. When completed, it has been suggested to also work with a legal group, Alliance Defending Freedom. They will help protect our religious freedoms so far as what is included in these documents.

- d. Record Retention Policy – Recommendations made by Dan after consultation with Joe Gangi, Attorney. Dan will incorporate these into a final document with the plan of the council adopting it at the next meeting.

10. New Business:

- a. Nancy Benson volunteered to act as Council Secretary through December 2025 while retaining her position of Council Member-at-Large.
- b. Narthex/AC – Update needed including a heating element. Estimate is \$16,000.

MOTION made and SECONDED to bring to a Special OSLC Voters' meeting on Sunday, September 28, 2025, as recommended by the Trustees and Council, the work needed for the Narthex/AC at an estimate of \$16,000. MOTION CARRIED.

11. Board Sharing

Trustees: Chris Anderson reported on the Narthex/AC recommendation. Commented on the good and conscientious work of our custodian, Doug Clausen.

Deacons: Denise Painter reported that the Board served VBS Wisdom's Workshop meals. Discussed 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary needs.

Endowment: Rob Hobbs reported, giving an update on scholarships and continuing to support the Adopt-a-Student in tuition at the St. Louis Seminary, Benjamin Wagner.

12. The meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer.

13. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

14. The next Council Meeting: Tuesday, September 9, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Benson, Acting Secretary  
OSLC Council

## Treasurer's Report Commentary Period Ending July 31, 2025

### Income and Expense Summary

	Current Month	Y-T-D
Income	\$33,304.45	\$389,801.64
Operating Expenses	(\$67,677.91)	(\$387,155.28)
LCEF Mortgage Principal Payment	(\$928.08)	(\$5,477.35)
<b>Net for Period<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>(\$35,301.54)</b>	<b>(\$2,830.99)</b>

<sup>†</sup>Positive net value indicates we received more than our expenses, a negative number indicates that we have spent more than we have received for that period (deficit).

### Cash Summary

	Amount	Notes
Checking Account	\$18,786.18	Daily checking account Pioneer Bank
Savings Account	\$196,166.91	Interest Savings account Pioneer Bank
Joyful Response	\$39,247.10	Joyful Response deposits and loan payments
Library Fund	\$20,107.12	Certificate of Deposit
Accounts Receivable	<u>\$0.00</u>	
<b>Total Cash Assets</b>	<b>\$274,307.31</b>	
Dedicated Accounts	(\$183,090.04)	Amount of our cash balance designated for specific activities
Other Liabilities	(\$114.66)	Accruals for HSA pmts, youth, etc.
<b>Available Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$91,102.61</b>	

### Long Term Debt (LCEF Mortgage)

Current Balance	\$194,893.80
Monthly Payment	\$1,845.99
Interest Rate (Variable Annually)	6.50% (Aug. 2025-Jul 2026)
Pay-off Date (Pay-off Amount)	7/2036 (\$44,721.09)

Submitted by,  
Gary Fladland, Treasurer

# Our Savior Lutheran Church Endowment Fund Treasurer's Report June 30, 2025

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Non-Scholar Fund</u>	<u>Scholar Fund</u>
Beginning Principal	\$10,893.79	\$100.00	\$10,793.79
1995 to 2024 Gifts Received	\$613,319.10	\$438,227.68	\$175,091.42
1995 to 2024 Int + Dividend Inc.	\$386,060.45	\$262,696.92	\$123,363.53
1995-2024 Change in Mkt Value	\$47,157.78	\$13,382.47	\$33,775.31
1995 to 2024 Disbursements	<u>(\$496,951.76)</u>	<u>(\$327,157.69)</u>	<u>(\$169,794.07)</u>
<b>Fund Balances: 29 Year Totals</b>	<b>\$560,479.36</b>	<b>\$387,249.38</b>	<b>\$173,229.98</b>
2025 OSLC Member Gifts	\$1,345.00	\$672.50	\$672.50
2025 Int. + Dividend Inc.	\$8,024.99	\$4,012.49	\$4,012.50
2025 Change in Mkt Value	\$17,186.11	\$8,593.06	\$8,593.05
2025 Lng/Shrt Term Cap.Gain	\$14,318.33	\$7,159.16	\$7,159.17
2025 Disbursements	(\$1,520.26)	(\$1,520.26)	\$0.00
<b>Total Fund Balances:        2025</b>	<b>\$599,833.53</b>	<b>\$406,166.33</b>	<b>\$193,667.20</b>
Wells Fargo checking	\$17,615.33		
LCMS Foundation	\$582,218.20		
<b>Total balances: 2025</b>	<b><u>\$599,833.53</u></b>		

## 2025 Disbursements:

Concordia Adopt a Student	\$	-	
Concordia Classical Academy	\$	-	
Together in Mission	\$	-	
Concordia Univ. Chicago	\$	-	
Concordia Univ. St. Paul	\$	-	
LCMS Colloquy Program	\$	-	
Fees – LCMS	\$	1,520.26	
<b>Total 2025 Disbursements</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>1,520.26</u></b>	

## Watch Our Savior's Sunday Worship

Our Savior's Sunday 8am and 10:30am worship is livestreamed. Go to: [www.oslcmankato.org](http://www.oslcmankato.org) and click on the "Livestreaming & Videos" menu item. From there you can go directly to YouTube to watch the service. Or you can watch anytime at your convenience. You can also view the Order of Service, and keep up with church activities in the Bulletin Announcements from our website.

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## Accessions & Losses

Losses:

John & LuAnn Guse, Transfer, Zion Lutheran Church, Albert Lea, MN; LCMS; July 25, 2025

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## Weddings

**Abigail Amanda Reed & Hans Peter Bloedel**

July 11, 2025

**Terrin Leigh Boozikee & Gideon Dorward Baldwin**

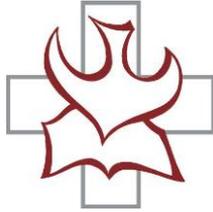
August 2, 2025

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## In Memoriam

**Norman Lloyd Prins**

September 12, 1931 ~ August 14, 2025



## Confirmation

Dana Marie Chatleain

August 3, 2025

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## Bible Study Sunday Morning Bible class: The Lord's Supper

Throughout the month of September our Bible class will be focused on the Lord's Supper. We will discuss what it is, why we celebrate it, and who it is for. We will work through this topic using both the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. Please join us between services Sunday morning!

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## GAME NIGHT

Game Night will not take place in September, due to the Polka Band at Tourtelotte Park in the afternoon. Bring the kids, have lunch, and listen to some Polka music. You can even dance! And there's playground equipment for the kids.

In October we'll be back at the church.



## **The 2025-2026 Sunday School year will start on September 14, 2025**

Little Lambs (3 Yr-K) will begin at 9:25 AM in their classroom upstairs.

1st-6th Grade will meet in the chapel at 9:25 AM.

Youth (7th-12th) will begin at 9:25 AM in the Youth Room upstairs.

We are also looking for someone who would be willing to coordinate this year's Children's Christmas Service. Guidance is available! If you have any questions or would be interested in helping with this please talk to Pastor Matheny, Pastor Koopman, Laura Matheny, or a member of the Board of Education. Thank you!

2nd and 3rd graders will be receiving their own Bibles before the beginning of each service on the 14th. (Please note this is a change from previous years, going forward personal Bibles will be handed out in 2nd grade)



Articles for the October 2025 VOICE are due by Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. You may drop-off submissions in the

office, or e-mail to: [contact@oslcankato.org](mailto:contact@oslcankato.org).



## Bible Study Circles

~ Summer ~ Fall  
Pentecost - Trinity

Our Summer Quarterly Theme: Bear One Another's Burdens is also our September Bible Study topic. "Bearing Life's Burdens . . . Together" We welcome all who can be with us to share Christ's love.

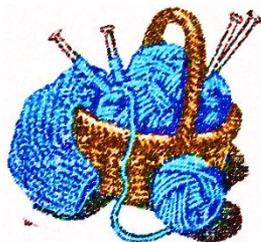
**Ruth/Lydia Bible Study:** Meet in the church Fireplace room on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, at 10:10 for a treat and a chat. At 10:25 Bible Study from the Summer *Quarterly* on pages 20-21. For sake of planning, 11:30 prayers. You guessed it, more chatting and rejoicing!

**Mary Circle Bible Study** meets Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:30pm in the Fireplace Room at church. Our study will be pages 20-21 in the Summer *Quarterly*, "Bearing Life's Burdens". Hostess: Wanda Schwanke, phone 507-340-6441. Guests and visitors welcome!

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## PRAYER SHAWLS

Three Prayer Shawls were given out this past month. If anyone would like to knit or crochet a shawl that would be wonderful. We don't have many left. Contact Marcella 507-317-4127 if you need yarn or directions.



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## BOOK CLUB

Sundays, September 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

The Our Savior's book club meets from 4:30-6 in the fireplace room on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. We read good books and then discuss them together from our shared Lutheran perspective. In September we begin the epic 1851 novel, *Moby Dick*, by Herman Melville. If interested, please speak with Pastor Matheny.



*“It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High” Psalm 92:1*

**Rehearsals begin again on September 10.** We are excited to begin a new season of rehearsals! We need your help to make our groups great! Please consider joining a group. Any questions or suggestions, please reach out to Suzie Gangi, [suzie@oslcmandato.org](mailto:suzie@oslcmandato.org) 507-341-4173

**Intro Choir:** A mixed-aged choir for anyone 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to adults, families are welcome! You will learn the basics of music and singing in parts. Led by Sue Klute and Lisa Gahler.

**Intro Bells:** For anyone in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to adults who would like to learn the basics of music and ringing. Anyone younger than 3<sup>rd</sup> grade with prior music experience is also welcome. Led by Edith Williams.

**Brass:** Anyone who plays a brass instrument. The group plays several times throughout the year for worship and special services. Led by Lisa Gahler

**Handbells:** Our Handbell Group needs more members this fall! If you can tell the difference between a half note and a quarter note, and can count to 3 and maybe even 4, we'd love you to join us. No prior handbell experience is needed - you'll learn all the techniques as you go. Led by Joe Gangi

**Vocal Choir:** Is for anyone who would like to sing. They meet in the sanctuary by the grand piano. Led by Judd Schultz.

Blessings,  
Suzie Gangi  
507-341-4173  
[suzie@oslcmandato.org](mailto:suzie@oslcmandato.org)



It's that time of the year again-  
back to school and back to  
**WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS!**

Meals will start September  
10<sup>th</sup> and we are looking for volunteers to help with meals-  
we need leaders, prep help, servers, dessert makers,  
dishwashers, YOU!

The sign up sheet is posted in the fireplace room. Please  
sign up as you are able. If you are interested in helping  
but are unsure of what to do or unfamiliar with the Our  
Saviors' kitchen, please reach out to Michelle Rottermond  
at 507-317-8338. We have many leaders who are more  
than willing to have helpers or show people the  
ropes. We can even provide meal plans complete with  
grocery lists and step by step timing. We appreciate  
your help!

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## **Youth Event at the WowZone**

Our first youth event of the school year will be at the  
WowZone September 21<sup>st</sup> from 6-8pm. Meet there at 6pm  
and we will bowl, eat pizza, and play laser tag and some  
arcade games. Please bring \$15 to chip in if you are  
able. This event is for 7<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

# 75

YEARS  
1950-2025

In February of 1950 the first Sunday School class began including a Nursery section for 3 and 4 years old. The Sunday morning instruction was given at 9:30 for 3 yrs.. to Junior High. 31 children attended and the first lesson, The Man Sick of the Palsy, and was taught by Rev. Dr. H. J. Boettcher. By 1975 enrollment was 310 from nursery age to the 9th grade. Average Sunday attendance during the school year was 180 and 100 during the summer. Sunday School teachers numbered around 35. The curriculum was “Mission Life” published by Concordia Publishing Co. The opening was held during the first Sunday church service, each month, with a message from the pastor and the handing out of attendance awards.



Three members of the congregation were on the Board of Education to make decisions for Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Some other activities of the board included the church picnic and the Christmas Eve children’s program. During Lent a special offering was taken and sent to missions.

In 1950 the Cradle Roll was started by Pastor Fehner’s wife. The numbers grew so quickly that she turned it over to Everell Bartsch who continued the project for 50 years. The roll included children from a few weeks old to the age of 4. They each received a prayer book and a greeting card on their birthday. Once they started Sunday School they were removed from the roll and added to the Sunday School enrollment. The Cradle Roll was also used as an outreach for the unchurched families. Often these families would bring their children to be baptized so the child would be added to the Cradle Roll.

An early monthly publication for the Sunday School was the “Little Friend”. Information was provided for offering, memory work, studies, Bible recipients and the lists of new students.

During the years of 1975 to 1990, Sunday School enrollment went from 175 to 299.

1990 to 2000: Elayne Luiken and Sue Eichhorst were two members who had a long history of being involved with Sunday School. Of course, Our Savior’s students were the focus but a trend during this time was school changing. The practice where families would all attend church together seemed to be in the past. The children would attend Sunday School and the adults would stay and be involved in teaching, going to a Bible study or other Sunday morning activities. During the 90s it had changed as many, parents and those in the neighborhood and unchurched families, would drop their children off for Sunday School and the adults did not stay. This trend has continued to the present time.

With Faith, Hope and Love Our Savior’s will continue to share the word of God with our children and all who come to hear.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
and do not lean on your own understanding.  
In all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make straight your paths.”  
Proverbs 3:5-6 (ESV)

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## Outreach Committee

Free cab rides to services are made possible for our members through Our Savior’s Taxi Fund. To procure a ride, call WS Transportation at 507-420-4503 or 507-388-0708. Please call a half hour before you would like to leave. To call for a return ride, you may use the phone in the office or kitchen. Let WS Transportation know where you will be waiting—the front door on Broad Street or the back parking lot door. Thank you.



75  
YEARS  
1950-2025

# Memories

**Memories** - We want to read about events and stories from the past for the 75th history booklet. Those of you who have been members since the early years, please share some of the forgotten memories! We don't want to lose them. Don't feel like you are a writer? Just list some details in a few sentences. Your recollections may be put in the library mail slot in the church office. Thank you, Dolly Blomquist - 507 388-4594.

**History Booklet** - We would like some details for a 75th booklet. If you were or are involved with projects at Our Savior's since 2000, please share. We want to put it down in print for future generations. Let's amaze them 100 years from now. Some examples - ie Stained Glass Windows, Prayer Shawls, Courtyard, River of Life Church, Mission Service, Stephen Ministry, Bible Studies, Book Club, Youth Group, Organ Updated, Construction Updates, Outreach, etc. etc. etc. Don't like to write? Not a problem. Just list the project and the time it was started, completed or still in progress. Please let us know, we don't want to forget anything! Your accounts may be put in the library mail slot in the church office. Thank you, Dolly Blomquist - 507 388-4594.



**Don't Forget...September 30, 2025**

Last day to submit your sharing  
for the history booklet.

~Thank You~

# Mission Service

Mission Service volunteers will meet at 4pm on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to come and help with the projects.



Synod needs people for mission trips. MOST Ministries has opening on Mission Trip.

Needed: Prayers, financial support for mailings, thinner leather strip that will to through pony beads.

Do you have a mission project that we at Our Savior should know about? Please let us know.

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## Mites Mission Grants

Give God the Glory

*From Lutheran Women in Mission eNews: 33 new Mission Grants! And many other big numbers. . . .*

*Following another successful convention, we are pleased to announce that \$2,622,270 has been approved to fund 33 Mission Grants for the upcoming biennium. Thank you all for your ongoing giving that continues to spread His love and His Word across the world.*



## **Ladies of Our Savior** *Lutheran Women in Mission*

**~ Ready to Serve ~**

Retreat is September 12-13: You're invited to step away from the busyness of everyday life and join your sisters in Christ for a refreshing and faith-filled Women's Retreat at the Camp Omega Lodge Friday evening through Saturday, September 12 – 13. We are pleased to welcome Rebekah Curtis, co-author of *Ladylike: Living Biblically*, as our featured speaker. Her heartfelt message and relatable wisdom of what it means to love as a woman of faith will inspire women of all ages. The retreat is appropriate for all LCMS women and young girls (junior high and older). This is a weekend you won't want to miss. Mark your calendar and make plans to be refreshed, encouraged and inspired!

Save the Date for the LWML 31<sup>st</sup> Biennial MN South District Convention, June 18-20, 2026, in Mankato. The Crow River Conference will be hosting the convention that means you and your LWML sisters from the Litchfield and McLeod Zones. So, if you receive a message from Nona Anderson or Jeanie Von Berge asking for your participation, please be ready to serve the Lord with gladness. I look forward to seeing you there.

Stay connected with LWML Quarterly and WOM E-News from both National and District. [www.mnslwml.org](http://www.mnslwml.org), and [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org).

## Young at Heart / S.A.G.E.S.

**Young at Heart** is Our Savior older adult ministry and

### **Saints Alive Growing Ever Serving**

(S.A.G.E.S.) is the District older adult ministry (50+)

**LHM** Lutheran Hour Ministries

**LLL** Lutheran Layman's League

**S.A.G.E.S. Board Meeting** on October 7<sup>th</sup> is the annual in person meeting at Peace Lutheran Church in Arlington. I invite you to attend with me. Every church in the district is invited to have a representative for the older adult ministries. Someone to communicate between the district and congregation. The S.A.G.E.S. Board is asking for volunteers for this circuits representatives on the Board.

**Christian Publications for LCMS Members:** Pray for us Calendar (Lutheran Bible Translator News), Lutheran Witness (Includes the District news), the Summer LWML Quarterly, the Summer WOM, One Voice for Public Policy, District e-News, Sagacity, Lutheran Layman, Portals of Prayer, etc. Find them in the Narthex and Mission Center.

**The Lutheran Hour and Lutheran Layman's League** continue to provide Our Savior with Christian activities such as being a petal pusher and working on the Tournament of Roses float, all different types of travel, website, Gospel Adventures, and much more.

May 4 & 5, 2026 – SAGES Gathering – Save the date!

Pick up your July-September Sagacity in the narthex.

LCMS Brochure sharing opportunities for you to serve within the LCMS.

[www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org) ● [www.mnsdistrict.org/sages](http://www.mnsdistrict.org/sages)



Difficult situations like surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis can tempt us to forget our Savior's presence and power. Comfort comes from not making deals with death but from the gifts He wrings and the privileges He brings even in and through hardship. An everlasting, unchanging, and all-sufficient Creator and Keeper not only provides life, He protects it as well!

Pastor Michael Salemink  
Lutherans for Life

*Life Quote from Lutherans for Life ~ [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*

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You are invited  
to celebrate the

155<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Good Thunder

Sunday, September 14  
9:30am Worship with Holy Communion  
11am Fellowship and Luncheon  
Tours and Historical Museum  
1:30pm Community Worship Celebration

Special Guests include:  
Rev. Jim Lamb, Rev. Rudy Maurer,  
Rev. James Gimbel, and Rev. William Zastrow

For all information and updates, go to:  
[www.stjohngoodthunder.org](http://www.stjohngoodthunder.org), e-mail:  
[contact@stjohngoodthunder.org](mailto:contact@stjohngoodthunder.org), or call 507-369-8705

## Pastor Tom Braun Announces his Retirement

Pastor Tom Braun, the Church Planter of our daughter congregation, River of LIFE Lutheran Church in St. Peter, announced his retirement effective October 31, 2025 from Ascension Lutheran Church in Tuscon, Arizona. If you would like to send Pastor and Colleen a card or note commemorating his 43 years of faithful service, please mail to the church at:

Ascension Lutheran Church  
1220 W. Magee Road  
Tuscon, AZ 85704

The cards will be presented after the service on October 26.

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## Minnesota South District News

To keep up with the news and happenings around the Minnesota South District, subscribe to the e-News.

Read about and get registration information on:

- Go First! Ministry Conference, September 26 – 27
- Minnesota South District Youth Day (Grades 6-12) October 11<sup>th</sup>
- KINDLE (Karpenko Institute for Nurturing and Developing Leadership Excellence) October 13 – 16
- Main Street Living upcoming episode information
- Access to **God's Mission Here** newsletter put out by LCMS National Mission
- Moving from Death to Life, October 17 – 18
- And much more

To subscribe and receive a weekly e-mail delivered to your inbox, go to:

<https://www.mnsdistrict.org/publications#weekly-eneus>

***The Voice***  
**Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
**1103 N Broad Street**  
**Mankato, MN 56001**

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**THANK YOU ALL CONTRIBUTORS**

Marcella Elders  
Karen Fischer  
Mel Hendrickson  
Rhonda Rastedt  
Dianne Schmidt  
Susan Sembach  
Bernice Wilson

**Address Service Requested**

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*September 2025*

# Our Savior Lutheran Church, Mankato, Minnesota

# September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>Labor Day 1</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>2</b> 8:30 Circuit Pastors 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study 5:15 Board of Education 5:30 Board of Trustees 6:00 Board of Elders 6:30 Board of Deacons	<b>3</b> 6:00 Jr. Confirmation Parent/Student Meeting	<b>4</b> 9:00 Private Confession 9:00 Courtyard Committee 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 10:10 Ruth/Lydia Circle	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 8:00 Matins 8:30 Coffee Time 9:00 Divine Service 10:45 Polka Band & Lunch @ Tourtellotte Park	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study 6:30 Planning Council	<b>10</b> 4:45 Introductory Choir 5:15 Introductory Bell Choir 5:25 Brass 5:45 Handbell Choir 6:00 Meal 6:45 Family Devotion 7:00 Jr. Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir	<b>11</b> 9:00 Private Confession 9:00 Courtyard Committee 10:00 Bulletin Deadline	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service 4:30 Book Club	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study	<b>17</b> 4:00 Mission Service 4:45 Introductory Choir 5:15 Introductory Bell Choir 5:25 Brass 5:45 Handbell Choir 6:00 Meal 6:45 Family Devotion 7:00 Jr. Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir	<b>18</b> 9:00 Private Confession 9:00 Courtyard Committee 10:00 Bulletin Deadline	<b>19</b> 4:00 The Voice Deadline	<b>20</b>
<i>Mite Sunday</i> <b>21</b> 8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service 6:00 Youth @ Wow!Zone	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study	<b>24</b> 4:45 Introductory Choir 5:15 Introductory Bell Choir 5:25 Brass 5:45 Handbell Choir 6:00 Meal 6:45 Family Devotion 7:00 Jr. Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir	<b>25</b> 9:00 Private Confession 9:00 Courtyard Committee 10:00 Bulletin Deadline	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service 11:30 Special Voters' Meeting 4:30 Book Club	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study				

## Staff

<b>Senior Pastor</b> Rev. Adam M. Matheny Office: 507-385-2183 Cell: 812-449-6866	<b>Associate Pastor</b> Rev. John H. Koopman Office: 507-385-2185 Cell: 712-852-6095	<b>Music Coordinator</b> Suzie Gangi Home: 507-341-4173	<b>Secretary</b> Sue Hendrickson Office: 507-385-2180 Home: 507-388-3557	<b>Custodian</b> Doug Clausen 507-594-8515
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## Congregational Officers and Elected Board Members

<b>President</b> Dan Gahler 507-995-3634	<b>Vice President</b> Zak Tess 920-265-8436	<b>Secretary</b> Vacant	<b>Treasurer</b> Gary Fladland 507-469-2086	<b>Financial Secretary</b> Vacant			
<b>Council Members at Large</b> Judy Hendley      507-317-7060 Joel Maunula      320-296-0954 Nancy Benson      507-345-1015 Sharon Anderson      507-995-1727		<b>Board of Elders</b> Judd Schultz-Chair      507-317-9932 Mike Holub      507-340-1222 Randy Burmeister      507-720-6985 Tom Benson      507-345-1015 Mike Anderson      507-469-8619 Gaylen Lenz      507-317-4269 Gene Mensing      507-387-4908 Matt Rottermond      507-317-8337 Andrew Bittner      507-779-9593 Vacant Vacant Vacant		<b>Board of Trustees</b> Kurt Anderson      507-381-9537 Bruce Anderson      507-327-8559 Steve Dumke      507-388-1297 Chris Anderson      507-382-9450 Kirk Yungerberg      507-327-5537 Bob Baker      507-327-2922		<b>Board of Education</b> Samantha Tess - Chair      507-217-0354 Marie Griffin      507-625-7971 Rhonda Prince      507-521-0690 Bev Annis      507-278-3093 Mary Bittner      507-469-8052 Darcy Chapman      507-382-5577	
<b>Board of Endowment Fund</b> Gretchen Zellmer      507-387-6939 Garvin Eichhorst - Treasurer      507-388-9227 Rob Hobbs-Chair      507-243-3232 Mel Hendrickson – Vice Chair      507-388-3557 Judy Mensing - Secretary      507-387-4908 Dave Kroells      507-345-4423 Thad Simpson      507-382-1683				<b>Board of Deacons</b> Carrie Anderson-Secretary      507-469-8619 Denise Painter - Chair      507-380-0507 Lindsey Marso      507-382-6168 Kathy Taylor      507-317-1555 Vicky Senne      507-625-1147 Terrin Boozikee      952-412-1762			