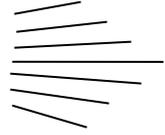




THE

# VOICE



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

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We will be welcoming our newest members at the  
October 22<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Night Meal.

Please join us at 6pm in the Fireplace Room to  
introduce yourself, if you haven't already met, and  
officially welcome them to our congregation.

Michael Bless  
Alesha Bracht  
Debbie Bracht  
David & Lisa Buhr  
Cayley Buhr  
Ashley Carlson  
Leighton Enz  
Gary & Priscilla Fladland  
Kristen Flathers

Raymond & LuAnn Garcia  
The Koopman family  
Riley & Alyssa Krieger  
Ted Nibbe  
Christian Teigum  
Jeffrey Treanor  
Janet Westerlund  
Kyndra Williams

## 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

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”

-1 John 1:7

This verse from John’s first epistle shines as a beacon of hope and guidance for believers. Walking in the light means living our lives in alignment with God’s Word. His truth, His holiness, and His love. God Himself is the source of this light, perfect and unblemished. To walk in that light requires a Word fueled, Spirit inspired intentionality—choosing transparency, humility, and obedience over the shadows of sin and self-deception. John emphasizes two profound outcomes of this walk. First, we experience authentic fellowship with one another. When we live in God’s light, our relationships are transformed. Masks come off, and we connect with others in honesty and love, reflecting the unity of the body of Christ. This fellowship isn’t superficial; it’s a deep, spiritual bond that strengthens us to live out our faith together. Second, the blood of Jesus purifies us from all sin. This is the heart of the gospel—Christ’s sacrifice cleanses us completely. No sin is too great, no stain too deep for His atoning blood. This purification isn’t a one-time event but an ongoing process as we confess and turn from sin, allowing His grace to renew us daily. Walking in the light doesn’t mean perfection; it means living a life shaped by repentance and forgiveness that is honest before God, trusting His forgiveness, and pursuing holiness. It’s a call to reject hidden sin and embrace accountability with God and others. Today, let’s ask: Are we walking in His light? Are we fostering genuine fellowship? Let’s rest in the assurance of Christ’s cleansing blood and step boldly into His radiant truth. *Lord, help me walk in Your light, embracing Your truth and love. Deepen my fellowship with others and keep me cleansed by Jesus’ blood. Amen.*

## A Mighty Fortress

*“Though devils all the world should fill, all eager to devour us, we tremble not, we fear no ill; they shall not overpower us. This world’s prince may still scowl fierce as he will, he can harm us none. He’s judged; the deed is done; one little word can fell him.”*  
- LSB 656:3

Demons are real. This is sometimes lost on us moderns, who at times believe all the world has materialist causes, and therefore materialist solutions. If my car has a tire blow out, I need to install a new tire. If my heart valve doesn’t pump well, I need to get a valve replacement. Now those make sense to treat materially, but what about the other hard things in life?

Many of the largest problems in our society are not solvable just by replacing a tire or a heart valve, but they’re principally spiritual. Why are there all of these people who want to violently kill others? Why are so many people, especially children, confused whether they’re boys or girls? Why are so many children growing up without both a father and a mother? Why do so many people want to die? Why are so many people lonely today? We certainly try to solve these problems with stuff, but they don’t seem to be improving. That’s because these things are primarily spiritual, and they have particularly demonic causes.

That demons are real is becoming more and more obvious. And yet, dear Christian: do not fear! *“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear”* (Ps 46:1). Even one little word from God has the power to defeat all the devils which fill this world. The demons sure try to appear scary, but they’re all bark and cannot truly harm us Christians. Jesus has already done the deed and squished the demons like worms beneath His nail-pierced feet.

I know the demons are wailing quite dreadfully and many Christians are suffering at the hands of demons, perhaps you included. To that I say: flee to Christ and take refuge in Him. The demons cannot stand listening to the Bible: so read. They flee when you sing hymns: so sing louder. They shudder when you pray: so bow your head and fall on your knees. The battle wounds from their attacks against you are soothed with the medicine of immortality from the altar: so take and eat and drink. The victory and the kingdom is already yours who dwell inside The Mighty Fortress.

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## In Memoriam

**Marian C. Ruschmeyer**

July 11, 1930 ~ August 19, 2025

**Belle I. King**

November 1, 1925 ~ September 1, 2025

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## 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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Articles for the November 2025 VOICE are due by Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. You may drop-off submissions in the

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

# *Council Meeting*

MINUTES – Our Savior Lutheran Church  
1103 North Broad St- Mankato, MN  
September 9, 2025

Members Present: Dan Gahler, Zak Tess, Sharon Anderson, Chris Anderson, Denise Painter, Rob Hobbs, Judd Schultz, Gary Fladland, Nancy Benson, Pastor Koopman, Pastor Matheny

Absent: Judy Hendley, Joel Maunula, Samantha Tess

1. Meeting was called to order by President Dan Gahler at 6:30 p.m.
2. Pastor Koopman opened with prayer.
3. Public/Congregation Presentation: Suzie Gangi presented information regarding the idea of a music conservatory connected with LCMS and an organization entitled David's Heart. OSLC is blessed with musical talent and this would encourage it for the next generations. No additional direct cost to the congregation; Suzie already subscribes to a music library and the organization has music for users. It is requested that we explore the use of our church's space and how accomplishing this might look. An informational meeting is set for Monday, September 29 at 6:30 p.m. at our church building to discuss this further.
4. Bible Study of Luke 20; led by Zak. Next month Luke 21.
5. Addition/Approval of Agenda:  
MOTION made and SECONDED to approve the Council agenda. MOTION CARRIED.
6. Approval of August 12, 2025 Council Minutes:  
MOTION made and SECONDED to approve the August 12, 2025 Council Minutes. MOTION CARRIED.
7. Pastors' Reports  
Pastors Koopman/Matheny: Shared teaching of a New Testament class at Mankato Christian Academy has begun twice a week with 10 students. Fall activities have begun at OSLC.

8. Treasurer's Report – Gary Fladland reported.

MOTION made and SECONDED to approve the August 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 held. True enjoyment of the August 17 celebration and September 7 music with picnic in the park.

b. Congregation Notification – Moving slowly.

c. Status regarding OSLC Constitution/Bylaws

Judd Schultz is continuing his work to update the constitution/bylaws.

d. Record Retention Policy – Tabled. More time is needed to be completely thorough.

10. New Business:

a. Church Council secretary position is open to begin January 1, 2026.

b. Dedicated account for future boiler costs

MOTION made and SECONDED to set up a fund to cover future boiler costs. MOTION CARRIED.

c. OSLC Voters' meeting set for Sunday, November 23, 2025. **Ballot election info due to Sue by November 3.**

d. Discussion regarding a "Church" credit card. Dan will explore this and report back.

e. Sudanese Help Organization request; Request died due to lack of motion. OSLC will rely on Synod missions to vet and fund these types of requests.

11. Board Sharing

Elders: Judd Schultz reported on the clear message agreed upon to be used during our Divine services regarding closed communion. The Elders feel this is for the best. An organization that helps LCMS congregations with maintaining websites will be helping us out. Also, looking at developing a policy for pre-confirmation aged students of the congregation

to be allowed to participate in communion. What will be required?

Trustees: Chris Anderson reported that they continue with the work set before them. Maintaining the church and property as needed.

Deacons: Denise Painter reported that the sign-ups for meals and breakfast are out there. Please spread the word! Rally Sunday set for September 14. They will have positions open on their board; looking for candidates.

Endowment: Rob Hobbs reported all is good. Disbursements made by the Board come through interest/appreciation of principal funds.

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

13. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

14. The next Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 14, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Benson, Acting Secretary  
OSLC Council

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## Accessions & Losses

### **Accessions:**

Janet L. Westerlund, Peace Lutheran Church, North  
Mankato, MN; ELS; August 2, 2025

Kyndra N. Williams, St. Peter Lutheran Church, St. Peter,  
MN; WELS; August 20, 2025

Riley Krieger, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Spring Lake  
Park, MN; WELS; August 28, 2025

### **Losses:**

Peter & Joan Preston, Alicia; Moved, no transfer,  
August 27, 2025

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

### Income and Expense Summary

	Current Month	Y-T-D
Income	\$46,551.14	\$436,352.78
Operating Expenses	(\$55,776.93)	(\$442,932.21)
LCEF Mortgage Principal Payment	(\$790.32)	(\$6,267.67)
<b>Net for Period<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>(\$10,016.11)</b>	<b>(\$12,847.10)</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	\$35,586.16	Daily checking account Pioneer Bank
Savings Account	\$196,666.73	Interest Savings account Pioneer Bank
Joyful Response	\$14,436.00	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>\$266,796.01</b>	
Dedicated Accounts	(\$181,617.65)	Amount of our cash balance designated for specific activities
Other Liabilities	(\$1,770.38)	Accruals for HSA pmts, youth, etc.
<b>Available Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$83,407.98</b>	

### Long Term Debt (LCEF Mortgage)

Current Balance	\$194,103.48
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

# GAME NIGHT

Game Night returns to the church in October. Join us Sunday evening, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 8pm. Bring your family, friends, and favorite board games. Use the back parking lot entrance. All ages welcome. (Note: This is not a drop off event, Kids 6<sup>th</sup> grade and younger must be accompanied by an adult.)

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## Bible Study Circles

Welcome all ladies!

Fall Theme: Stir Up One Another in Love and Good Works.

*And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works. – Hebrews 10:24*

**Ruth/Lydia Bible Study** gathers together on Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> At 10:10am for fellowship and a treat. Bible study begins at 10:25am. Our study will be from the Fall *Quarterly* “Let Us Be Your Hands and Feet! On page 19.

**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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## OUR SAVIOR ENDOWMENT FUND PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIPS

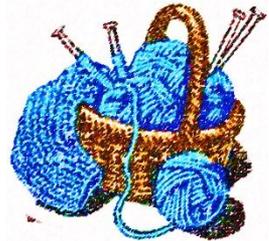
The Endowment Board approved \$10,600 in scholarship funds for 7 student members of Our Savior Lutheran Church who are attending Concordia Classical Academy (CCA) in North Mankato. The board also approved a \$3000.00 scholarship for 1 post-secondary member who is attending a LCMS institution in preparation for a career in full time church work.

Please consider making an offering/donation to our Endowment Fund, as you are able, to support our students, missionaries, etc. in the years to come.

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## PRAYER SHAWLS

No Prayer Shawls were given out this month. If you'd like a pattern to knit or crochet a shawl, please call Marcella at 507-317-4127. Also, if you or someone you know would like a shawl, call Marcella.



## BOOK CLUB

Sundays, October 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<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 October we continue the epic 1851 novel, *Moby Dick*, by Herman Melville. If interested, please speak with Pastor Matheny.



***Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him  
with music and song. Psalm 95:2***

Rehearsals are off to a great start! If you'd like to join us, it's not too late.

**Wednesday Night Rehearsal Schedule**

Intro Choir- 4:45-5:15

Intro Bells- 5:15-5:45

Brass- 5:25-5:45

Handbells 5:45-6:15

Choir- 7:00-7:30

***October Special Music Schedule:***

October 5: Intro Choir

October 19: Handbell Choir

October 26: Vocal Choir

We have openings for special music. Maybe it doesn't work for you to join a group, but we'd still love to have you participate if you are able, whether as a solo or part of a small group. Please talk to Suzie Gangi. 507-341-4173 or [suzie@oslcmandkato.org](mailto:suzie@oslcmandkato.org)

Blessings,  
Suzie Gangi

*Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,  
For You are Lord of lords alone;  
Defend Your holy Church that we  
May sing Your praise eternally.*

*LSB 655, v.2 "Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"  
Text: Martin Luther*

Join us for WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS each Wednesday at 6pm. We enjoy good fellowship and a good meal, and then spend a little time in God's Word with a short devotion at 6:45pm.



Everyone is invited to come. It is not just for people involved in the music groups or Confirmation.

If you would like to help by preparing a meal, serving, bring a dessert, clean up, or do dishes, please sign up on the sheet in the Fireplace Room.

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## 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth

Join us at the Anderson home, 19353 584<sup>th</sup> Lane on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 8pm for a Campfire. Watch for more details in the bulletin.



# **October - Church Workers Appreciation Month**

**2025**

## **Pastors**

Senior: Rev. Adam Matheny - 2016 - Present

Associate: Rev. John Koopman - 2024-Present

## **Visitation Pastor**

Rev. Martin Teigen

## **Organists**

Edith Williams - 1984-Present

Sue Klute - 1985-Present

Barb Anderson - 1989-Present

## **Music Coordinator**

Suzi Gangi - 2017-Present

## **Choir Directors**

Vocal: Judd Schulz

Introductory: Lisa Gahler & Sue Klute

## **Handbell Choir Directors**

Adult: Joe Gangi

Introductory: Edith Williams

## **Congregation President**

Dan Gahler 2024- Present

## **Office Secretary**

Sue Hendrickson - 2007-Present

## **Custodian**

Doug Clausen - 2025-Present



“Therefore we ought to support people like these,  
that we may be fellow workers for the truth.”

3 John 1:8

**75**  
YEARS  
1950-2025

## **Church Workers**

**1950-60**

### **Pastors**

Rev. Alvin Fehner May 1950 - November 1960  
Rev Eugene Glade September 1958 - September 1964  
Rev. Norman Heidorn July 1961 -April 1989

### **Vicars**

David Ebert - 1955-56  
Eugene Glade - 1956-57  
Robert Ziegler - 1957-58

### **Director of Christian Education**

Robert Wolf - 1955-56

### **Organist**

Emil John - 1950-65

### **Choir Directors**

Senior: Ernie Sibert - 1950-61  
Junior: Adah Hantelman - 1950-68

### **Congregation Presidents**

Marvin Heuer - 1950-51	John Larson - 1957
Dr. George Penn - 1952-53	Roy Schulz - 1958
Marvin Heuer - 1954-55	Marvin Heuer - 1959
Dr. George Penn - 1956	Al Meyer - 1960

### **Office Secretaries**

1950-59 Mrs. George Rosin, Helen Sprague and  
Esther Jonson Ziegler 1959-63 Wilma Pehling

### **Custodians 1950-63**

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Bunde  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Schulz

# Mission Service

The Operation Christmas Child project presents a wonderful opportunity to share the life-changing message of the Gospel with hurting children and their families. Each gift-filled shoebox is given as a tangible expression of God's



unconditional love, bringing joy and opening doors for the Good News of Jesus Christ! Each child receives the Gospel in their own language. There is nothing more urgent than telling the world about the Lord Jesus Christ. Please fill up a shoebox (in the narthex) or donate items from the list. Mission Service will be putting

shoeboxes together on October 15 at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

Thank you for bringing in your used Portals of Prayer. They are put in each healthcare kit for local shelters.

Eyeglasses were delivered to the Lions. Did you know that most eyeglass clinics/missions get their eyeglasses through the Lions? Thank you for bringing in your used glasses.

Twenty-eight Healthcare Kits were delivered to the St. Peter Union Street Shelter in August and 24 kits were delivered to The Reach in Mankato in September. Thank you to everyone who donated items to be used in the kits and for all the helpers who came to put the kits together!

Five boxes of Bibles were sent to Eagles Nest Ministries last month. Thank you to Pub 500 for paying the postage.

Continue doing your own special mission service. Let Trudy know what your specialty is.



## Mites - Mission Grants

Give God the Glory

See the Mites Mission Grants poster for 2025-2027 in the narthex or mission center. All mite monies go directly to a grant. October 19<sup>th</sup> is Mite Sunday here at Our Savior Lutheran Church. You may contribute your gift in the large Mite Box in the narthex. In October, we will focus on a new Mite Grant. Grant information will be in the bulletin.

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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.



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*Thank you*

The family of Norman Prins would like to thank Pastor Matheny and Pastor Koopman for the visits to Norm at the end of his earthly life, and for sharing the Gospel with us at his funeral service. And thank you to all who supported us with your prayers, cards, visits, attendance at the funeral, memorial gifts, and serving the funeral lunch. We are so grateful to our church family for sharing our burden at this difficult time.

God bless you all –

Ruth Prins, Sue & Mel Hendrickson,  
Nathan & Darcy Chapman family



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

**~ Ready to Serve ~**

October is the month we celebrate the Reformation. Read about our church beginning on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1517. Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses – the “Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences” – on the church door in the small city of Wittenberg, Germany. This ignited the Protestant Reformation, and thus the Lutheran church officially commemorates this important anniversary on October 31<sup>st</sup>. October is church worker appreciation month, October 12<sup>th</sup> is pastor appreciation day.

Remember Martin and Katie Luther by reading some of the books and stories of their lives.

**LWML Crow River Conference Rally:** Jennifer Prophete, Director from the Hopeful Neighborhood Project, will talk about this Lutheran Hour Ministry sponsored program on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 240 Cleveland Ave, Green Isle. Registration (\$5) begins at 9am, Pre-Rally music by Pastor Eric and Polly Rapp at 9:15, and the Rally starts at 9:30. Brunch will be served at the close of the rally and a free will offering will go to Lutheran Hour Ministry. We would like you to gather donation items for something in your local neighborhood/church/community. You will be asked to share at the rally what you did. There will be service projects you can participate in, tying fleece blankets or writing cards to share with your neighbors. Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the Mission Center, or to Denise Spletzer (507-351-3948 or [dspletzer1952@gmail.com](mailto:dspletzer1952@gmail.com)) by Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.

For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command:  
“Love your neighbor as yourself.” Galatians 5:14.

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).

“Season of Fall” Colors changing, think of the beauty of God’s creation.

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**The Polka Picnic went well because of the volunteers below:**

Dave Borchert and Craig Fitzloff arranged the tables, got the ice and coolers.

Laura Matheny decorated the cupcakes and Jesse did recycling.

Michael Bless did photography.

Sharon Anderson, Marcella Eilders, and Wanda Schwanke served lunch.

Our very own members entertained us with their polka skills, Joyce & Dave Kroells, Gerri & Gary Schmidt, and Pastor John & Brittany.

We couldn’t have done it without our Lord’s blessings and sunny weather. Thanks for all your efforts.

Pam Borchert & Dan Gahler, Co-Chairs

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*“We care about that precious baby, but we also care about the mom. We care about that woman who is haunted by the guilt and*

*shame of a past abortion . . . We care because Jesus cares for us. We love because God first loved us. And this we know! Our Lord Jesus – who died for us and took away all of our sin and guilt and shame – is risen and ascended to the Father’s throne. JESUS LIVES! THE VICTORY’S WON!”*

*Pastor Paul Clark, LFL of Michigan*

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

**The Lutheran Layman: Expanding Ministry to Grow God's Kingdom.** Even though the summer *Lutheran Layman* came late, it is loaded with important Christian messages and activities for you and your family. This copy contains LLL District Projects, page 8, Nurturing Your Faith, pages 9-10, Leaving a Legacy, page 17, Gospel Adventure, page 18, Dive in Gospel Adventures this fall "Wild About Kenya," Changing Lives Globally, pages 20-21, 75 years for LHM Float, page 22.

**SAGES District Board Meeting** on October 7<sup>th</sup> is in person at Peace Lutheran Church in Arlington. The meeting is from 10am – noon, followed by lunch hosted by Pauline Wieman, a charter member of SAGES. Please consider attending as a guest. Trudy Wiechmann, 507-327-7082, representative for Circuits 19-20 South Crow River. The Sagacity newsletter for October – December is online.

SAGES, Our District Older Adult Ministry needs you. Your thoughts, your prayers, your talents, and gifts of service.

- 1) We welcome a contact person or persons to communicate information between the congregation and SAGES
- 2) Volunteers to the District Board for Circuits 19 and 20.

Is it I Lord?

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



# 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:

- Hebrews Workshop, October 24<sup>th</sup>, Concordia St. Paul
- LERT Training & Chainsaw training, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Camp Omega
- Society of St. Polycapr Annual Retreat, November 9 – 11, St. John's Lutheran Church, Oakes, ND
- 2026 Bible Bowl, April 18, Concordia St. Paul

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

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

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## Life Chain 2025

Join with local congregations of multiple denominations and pro-life organizations to peacefully stand in defense of Life on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.

We will gather on the sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood, 340 Stadium Road, Mankato

1:30pm Prayer Vigil

2:00pm Life Chain

Coordinated by the Blue Earth County Chapter of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life

## **From the Stewardship Committee:**

Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the Word and instruction of God in the Bible says we should give, and this is sufficient to encourage us to give (Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:7; Gal. 6:6).

But there's more to it than just obligation. We're not just trying to fulfill a work of the law. We are bearing fruits of the Spirit given to us by our Father in heaven through His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we're not just doing what our Father said, we're also doing what He did.

Children emulate their parents. When they grow up, they often carry many of the same mannerisms and characteristics as their parents. But there is more to it than that. Children copy their parents even on a more mundane level. They watch how their parents cross their legs, how they fold their hands, how they stand and sit and walk, and how they do and say most everything. Then children try to copy it.

This can be quite humorous when caught in the act. They do this even when parents don't want them to. Everyone has been in the uncomfortable – and embarrassing situation – where a child does or says something one of their parents have done or said that is less than polite. Sitcoms thrive on these. It only works because of the truth that children emulate their parents, and they do it because they want to be like them.

We are the children of God – by grace through faith. In Holy Baptism, God the Father declares of us what He declared of Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan, "You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." God the Father claims us as His own. He takes away all our sins. In exchange, He gives us His righteousness, His purity, His holiness, and His Spirit – by which we cry out, "Abba, Father."

We are born again – born from above, born of water and the Spirit – to a new life in Christ as His children. We are sons of God in Christ through Baptism. Since we are sons, we are heirs who

share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father's grace, mercy, and generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

This is why we give generously of our income to the work of the church. We want to be like our heavenly Father. We want to emulate His generosity by being generous ourselves. We give to the work of the church because we have witnessed the generous giving of our Father in heaven.

More than that, we are recipients of it. It is because we have received our Father's gifts that we desire to give ourselves. His gifts are not just spiritual. They are temporal and earthly as well. As Luther's Small Catechism teaches in the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer: Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

In other words, He gives us everything that we need for the care of both body and soul. His generosity knows no bounds. Therefore, we sit down at the beginning of the year, the beginning of the month, or the beginning of the week and set aside a generous portion of God's daily bread for His work in the church. This is not done because He has commanded us so to do but rather because we, as His children by grace, want to emulate His generosity in our own lives. He is our Father; we are His children. And children want to be like their parents.

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

**Nonprofit Org.**  
**U.S. Postage**  
**P A I D**  
**Mankato, MN**  
**Permit No. 216**

**THANK YOU ALL CONTRIBUTORS**

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

**Address Service Requested**

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*October 2025*

# Our Savior Lutheran Church, Mankato, Minnesota

## October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 1:30 Mary Circle Bible Study 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 / Vocal Choir Men's Boundary Waters Trip thru 10/5	<b>2</b> 9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 10:10 Ruth/Lydia Circle Bible Study	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service 6:00 Open Gym/Game Night	<b>6</b> Fall Pastor's Conference, Trinity, Waconia	<b>7</b> 10:00 Early Bulletin Deadline 5:15 Board of Education 5:30 Board of Trustees 6:00 Board of Elders 6:30 Board of Deacons	<b>8</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 / Vocal Choir Sue - Vacation	<b>9</b> 9:00 Private Confession	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</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>13</b> 9:00 Quilting  Sue - Vacation	<b>14</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study 6:30 Planning Council	<b>15</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 / Vocal Choir	<b>16</b> 9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 Stephen Ministers	<b>17</b> 4:00 The Voice Deadline	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <i>Mite Sunday</i> 8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study	<b>22</b> 4:45 Introductory Choir 5:15 Introductory Bell Choir 5:25 Brass 5:45 Handbell Choir 6:00 Meal-New Member Welcome 6:45 Family Devotion 7:00 Jr. Confirmation / Vocal Choir	<b>23</b> 9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</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 6:00 Youth Campfire @ Anderson's	<b>27</b> 9:00 Quilting	<b>28</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study	<b>29</b> 1:30 Endowment Board 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 / Vocal Choir	<b>30</b> 9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline	<b>31</b>	

## 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			
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