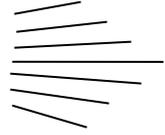




THE

# VOICE



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The monthly newsletter of Our Savior Lutheran Church  
1103 N Broad St., Mankato, MN 56001 **MARCH 2026**

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## *Lent and Holy Week Services*

### *Midweek Lenten Services*

Wednesdays March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>  
1:30pm and 6:30pm

Private Confession in the sanctuary  
30 minutes prior to each service



**L E N T**

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### *Palm Sunday*

Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>  
8:00am & 10:30am

### *Maundy Thursday*

Divine Service with Holy Communion  
Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
1:30pm and 6:30pm

### *Good Friday Service*

Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
1:30pm and 6:30pm

### *Easter Vigil*

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>  
8:00pm

### *Easter Celebration*

Divine Service, Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
8:00am & 10:30am

Easter Garden  
Orders  
Due March 9<sup>th</sup>!  
See page 23 for  
order form.

## Contact Info:

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

Senior Pastor Office phone: 507-385-2183  
Rev. Adam Matheny: matheny@oslcmankato.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@oslcmankato.org

Custodian

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

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him,  
and he will act.

- Psalm 37:5

In the season of Lent, as we journey toward the cross, Psalm 37:5 calls us to a profound act of faith. This verse isn't a call to self-improvement or moral striving, but an invitation to surrender our paths entirely to God. David, the psalmist, wrote amid wickedness and uncertainty, urging believers not to fret over evildoers but to entrust everything to the Lord. For us, this means acknowledging our utter inability to navigate life's trials on our own merits—our sins, doubts, and failures loom large in Lent's penitential mirror.

Committing our way isn't about earning God's favor; that's impossible. Instead, it's resting in Christ's completed work. He committed His way to the Father, even unto death on Calvary, acting decisively for our salvation. As we fast, pray, and repent, we trust that God "will act"—not based on our piety, but on His faithfulness revealed in Baptism, where we died and rose with Christ, and in the Supper, where He sustains us with His body and blood. In a world of injustice and personal struggles, this trust combats despair. Like David, we may wait, but God's action is certain: forgiveness, renewal, eternal life. Lent strips away illusions of control, pointing us to the empty tomb where God acted mightily.

*Gracious Father, in this Lenten season, help us commit our ways to You. Forgive our self-reliance and strengthen our trust in Your Son's cross. Act in us by Your Spirit, that we may live in Your peace. Amen.*

**Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted**

*Here we have a firm foundation, Here the refuge of the lost; Christ, the Rock of our salvation, Is the name of which we boast: Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, Sacrifice to cancel guilt! None shall ever be confounded Who on Him their hope have built. - LSB 451:4*

“Blessed is the man who takes refuge in the Lord” (Ps. 34:8)! A refuge is a place of safety and protection for those who are in trouble. As such, the term “sanctuary” has become a term with two meanings. A sanctuary literally means a holy (*sanctus*) place. But in medieval church law fugitives were immune to arrest when they were inside of the sanctuary. That law is not valid today, so the police most certainly can arrest criminals who invade our church, but it can still be helpful to think of the sanctuary as a refuge. The sanctuary is not a refuge from police, but from our actual enemies of sin, death, and Satan.

The architecture of our church building is helpful in communicating this reality. Our sanctuary is spacious and made of bricks with large exposed beams, communicating that our Lord is a strong place of safety. The focal point in the sanctuary is the large cross, communicating that our Lord Jesus is larger and more powerful than any enemies or troubles we may be facing. Indeed, the blood of Jesus Christ forgives all sins. Upon the cross Jesus crushed the devil’s skull. Through the death of Jesus, He has opened the gate of heaven to us.

Like the hymn says: “Here we have a firm foundation, here the refuge of the lost; Christ, the rock of our salvation.” Despite how we feel, perhaps overwhelmed by any number of trials, the Lord is the refuge for all who flee to Him. “None shall ever be confounded who on Him their hope have built.” The Lord is a sure foundation, changeless and enduring from age to age. Though all this world shall one day be rolled up like a scroll, He will forever be the eternal God. So flee to Jesus, the only Refuge for sinners such as us. Sit beneath the cross in the sanctuary, and remember that your Lord Jesus is sheltering you from all of Satan’s attacks. The Lamb of God promises to preserve you through this life and lead you into the next; may His sacrifice be your comfort that stills your troubled heart.

May you have a blessed Lent,  
Pastor Koopman

**Council Meeting Minutes**  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
1103 North Broad St, Mankato, MN  
January 13, 2026

Members present: Dan Gahler, Pastor Matheny, Judd Schultz, Mark Wellner, Rob Hobbs, Nancy Benson, Pastor Koopman, Eileen Heintz, Zak Tess, Andrew Bittner, Gideon Baldwin, Terrin Baldwin, Gary Fladland

Absent: Samantha Tess, Sharon Anderson, Chris Anderson,

1. The meeting was called to order by President Dan Gahler at 6:30 pm.

2. Pastor Koopman opened with prayer.

3. Zak Tess led Bible study of Luke 24. Next month will be John 1.

4. Addition/Approval of Agenda

Motion made and seconded to approve agenda with the addition of two items of New Business: Women's Retreat and When to Release Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

5. Approval of December 9, 2025 Council Minutes

Motion made and seconded to approve December 9, 2025 Council minutes. Motion carried.

6. Pastors' Reports

Pastor Koopman: Good Christmas season, all special services were well done. Children's Christmas program went well.

Pastor Matheny: Same as above.

7. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Gary Fladland. We ended 2025 behind by \$24,633.01, though monthly income for December was up. Please include in your prayers that this year we won't have net negative months.

Motion made and seconded to approve the December 31, 2025 OSLC Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Dan Gahler gave a brief update on anniversary committee expenses: net expenses total \$8,400, lower than the budgeted \$12,000.

8. Unfinished Business:

A) Congregational Notification

Pastor Matheny had nothing new to report.

B) Status regarding OSLC Constitution/Bylaws

Judd Schultz reported on the Alliance Defending Freedom's free review. He submitted it to them for review, however since we aren't a member of their service, we are lower on their list, and it will be a while before we hear back with their advice on how to protect our congregation legally.

C) Reminder of January Voters Meeting on next Sunday, January 18th

9. New Business:

A) Thoughts on Bible Study Topics for Future Council Meetings

It was suggested to continue through the Bible with the book of John, but with a commentary resource to guide discussion. Nancy volunteered to look into resources from CPH on John.

B) Discuss MN Valley Chorale using our Sanctuary

MN Valley Chorale has requested to use our Sanctuary for practice each week. They currently rent space weekly at Bethany Lutheran College but are running low on funds due to losing MN state funding for their dress code not being gay affirming. A few of our congregation members are also choir members. Motion made and seconded to allow them to use our Sanctuary to practice at no charge. Motion carried.

C) Women's Retreat

This will take place March 20, 2026. They are seeking approval for an exception to the no alcohol rule so they can have wine like last year. Motion was made and seconded to approve this exception, contingent on the approval of the Boards of Elders and Trustees. Motion carried.

D) When to Release Council Meeting Minutes

We are publishing Council and Voters' Meeting minutes in the Voice before they are approved by the applicable group. Going forward they will be released after they are approved by vote.

10. Board sharing:

Elders: Andrew Bittner gave the report. They are looking to use Memento70 for Lenten preparation for the Board of Elders. Tom Benson

will connect with Sue about the church safety lessons learned from the city meeting on church safety. Their goals and objectives for 2026 are 1- Excellence in Liturgy, 2- Fidelity in Doctrine, and 3- Eagerness of the Gospel

Endowment: Rob Hobbs gave the report. A little over \$6,000, which is higher than average. We have an endowment fund and scholarship fund, and both can be given to. At the end of the year they are both shifted to the endowment fund but it's still tracked separately.

Deacons: Terrin Baldwin gave the report. Served 140 people at the Children's Christmas Brunch. There are many events upcoming.

Trustees: None present.

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

12. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

13. The next Council meeting: February 10, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Heintz, Secretary  
OSLC Council

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## **Accessions & Losses**

### **Accessions:**

Lars & Angie Johnson, Leif, Brynja; Mt. Olive Lutheran Church; ELS; February 3, 2026

### **Losses:**

Elizabeth Steinkamp, Christ Lutheran Church, Lincoln, NE; LCMS; January 26, 2026

Ricky & Katherine Voight, Trinity Lutheran Church, Lake Crystal, MN; LCMS; February 3, 2026

Nickolas Voight; Released by request, no transfer; February 3, 2026

Cody Voight; Released by request, no transfer; February 3, 2026

Norma Burns, Hosanna Lutheran Church, Mankato; LCMS; February 5, 2026

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

### Income and Expense Summary

	Current Month	Y-T-D
Income	\$68,571.21	\$68,571.21
Operating Expenses	(\$55,361.52)	(\$55,361.52)
LCEF Mortgage Principal Payment	(\$3,116.95)	(\$3,116.95)
<b>Net for Period<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>\$10,092.74</b>	<b>\$10,092.74</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	\$41,331.38	Daily checking account Pioneer Bank
Savings Account	\$179,114.54	Interest Savings account Pioneer Bank
Joyful Response	\$27,687.07	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>\$268,240.11</b>	
Dedicated Accounts	(\$186,450.23)	Amount of our cash balance designated for specific activities
Other Liabilities	(\$1,288.21)	Accruals for HSA pmts, youth, etc.
<b>Available Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$80,501.67</b>	

### Long Term Debt (LCEF Mortgage)

Current Balance	\$187,782.23
Monthly Payment	\$1,845.99
Interest Rate (Variable Annually)	6.50% (Aug. 2025-Jul 2026)
Pay-off Date (Pay-off Amount)	July 2036 (\$40,192.83)

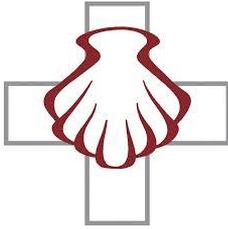
Submitted by,  
Gary Fladland, Treasurer

# Our Savior Lutheran Church Endowment Fund Treasurer's Report December 31, 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	\$5,659.75	\$1,007.25	\$4,652.50
2025 Int. + Dividend Inc.	\$15,899.54	\$7,949.77	\$7,949.77
2025 Change in Mkt Value	\$54,820.06	\$27,410.03	\$27,410.03
2025 Lng/Shrt Term Cap.Gain	\$14,318.33	\$7,159.16	\$7,159.17
2025 Disbursements	(\$23,857.99)	(\$3,164.99)	(\$20,693.00)
<b>Total Fund Balances:        2025</b>	<b>\$627,319.05</b>	<b>\$427,610.60</b>	<b>\$199,708.45</b>
Wells Fargo checking	\$7,835.21		
LCMS Foundation	\$619,483.84		
<b>Total balances: 2025</b>	<b><u>\$627,319.05</u></b>		

## 2025 Disbursements:

Concordia Adopt a Student	\$ 3,500.00		
Concordia Classical Academy	\$ 14,193.00		
Together in Mission	\$ -		
Concordia Univ. Chicago	\$ -		
Concordia Univ. St. Paul	\$ 3,000.00		
LCMS Colloquy Program	\$ -		
Fees – LCMS	\$ 3,164.99		
<b>Total 2025 Disbursements</b>	<b><u>\$ 23,857.99</u></b>		



## Holy Baptism

**Briggs Thomas Mangulis**

Born: May 17, 2021

Baptized: February 1, 2026

Parents: Matthew & Jennifer Mangulis

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## In Memoriam

**Mary Kathleen 'Kathy' Cornish**

May 8, 1939 ~ January 23, 2026

**Elna I. Bohlke**

December 6, 1934 ~ February 13, 2026

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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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## Mission Service

Mission Service will meet on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to come and help with the projects.





Join us for Open Gym – Game Night on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> from 6 – 8pm. Bring the family, friends, and your favorite board games. Note: this is a family event, not a drop off event. Kids 6<sup>th</sup>

grade and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

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## Our Savior Ladies

**All of you, ladies of Our Savior.** Learn at the Retreats, Rallies, Conventions, Bible Studies, Worship Service and more.

“The Peace of Christ”, LWML 31<sup>st</sup> Biennial Minnesota South District Convention registration begins March 1<sup>st</sup>. The Convention is June 18 – June 20, 2026, at Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center, Mankato. Registration Packets will be received at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> Zone meeting in Henderson. Our Convention Registrar is: Michelle Prigge, 18776 County Road 25, Winona, MN 55987. There are two methods of payment – Check/money order or credit card. Much more information on the MN South District website. Two Delegates are needed immediately from Our Savior. For more information call Trudy. The Gifts from the Heart at the convention will go to the Pig’s Eye Lake Encampment which is the largest homeless camp in St. Paul. We will also collect quilts for the prison ministry from our quilting groups.

Silent Auction Gift Baskets event, back by popular demand, will be held at the LWML MN South District convention. Society, Zone, or individuals may gather gifts in themed basket. All money will be directed to Mission Goal 2026-2028. Limit of 40 baskets. All baskets must be pre-registered.

If you have a quilt you would like to pre-register that is acceptable. To prepare basket for donation: Card with theme or title, name of person or group, the Zone or church and location. Include a list of contents, the estimated value starting at \$10 on up. Pre-register by May 17<sup>th</sup> to Beth Schuster. Copies of instructions are available in the narthex.

# Spring Women's Retreat

March 20-21, 2026

## Gathered by Christ: the Overlooked Gift of Church

Guest Speaker Christa Petzold

What is the Church? What does it mean to be the Church? Do you need to be connected to the Church to be a Christian? Why does Jesus institute the Church? This study dives deep into the gifts that Jesus has given His Body, the Church, and the comfort that is found for us as individuals in and through the Body of Christ. Specifically, we study **what is the rule of faith, what are the practices of the faithful, and what is the hope for the world? What gifts does Jesus give to the Church in each of these areas?**

Christa is a pastor's wife and second-generation homeschool mom from Antioch, IL. She has a Master's degree in Theology from Concordia University Irvine and is currently pursuing her PhD in History of Exegesis from Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis. She has a passion for writing fiction and non-fiction that highlights the love Jesus has for his Bride, the Church. To learn more, visit <https://christapetzold.com/>

You are invited to come and spend the day with your sisters in Christ being inspired, refreshed, and fulfilled. We look forward to seeing you there!

Friday, March 20th  
21+ Social Event  
6:30-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 21st  
ages 15+  
8:30a.m.- 3:00 p.m.  
Lunch provided  
\*nursing babies welcome

Registration Cost  
1-day only :\$15  
Friday & Saturday: \$25

# Women's Retreat Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Food Sensitivities \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to attend:

Friday \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday \_\_\_\_\_

I am able to pay my registration fee \_\_\_\_\_

(\$15 one day \$25 both days)

I need assistance with registration cost \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to sponsor someone else's registration cost \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed amount \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out and return to church office. Cash or check is accepted.



## Bible Study Circles

– March –

Ladies come to learn with us. March Lesson will be “Esther, A Faithful Woman of God”, page 22 and 23 in the Winter Quarterly. Hadassah (Esther), Mordecai – took her as his daughter. Orphan – to – Queen of Persia.

**Ruth/Lydia Bible Study** meets on the first Thursday this month, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:25-11:30am. Come early for fellowship and treats from 10:10 -10:25am.

**Mary Circle Bible Study** is meeting on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in the Fireplace Room. Gwen Cattrysse is hostess, phone 507-340-4991. Our lesson is “What is Happening?” on pages 18-19 in the Winter *Quarterly*. Guests and visitors are welcome!

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*Oh Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!- Psalm 95:1*

**Lent Rehearsal Schedule Begins March 5:**

Intro Choir: 4:40-5:00

Intro Bells: 5:00-5:20

Bells: 5:25-5:50

Brass: 6:05

Vocal Choir: 7:20 after the advent service

**Our Savior Conservatory of Music:** We currently have 11 students enrolled in our Conservatory! We’d like to invite you to our first Spring Recital which will be Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. The recital will feature our students and a few instructors too!

Blessings,  
Suzie Gangi  
suzie@oslcmandkato.org  
507-341-4173



March Youth Event- (5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders)- The Mankato Curling Club is reserved for our Youth Event March 15<sup>th</sup> 12:00-2:30pm. We will have lunch and a curling lesson and then have some time to play. Meet at 600 Hope

St, Mankato, MN 56001 at noon. Please bring a clean pair of athletic shoes (carried into the club to keep dirt and salt off the ice), wear warm, loose fitting clothing (the rink temperature is about 40F- we suggest dressing in layers- stretchy or loose fitting pants that allow for freedom of movement and modesty, jeans are not recommended) and gloves, and bring a water bottle if desired. Waivers will be required for each participant. Suggested chip in amount for this event is \$10.

Volunteer hosts wanted for our April Youth Event! Our April Youth Event will be a Progressive Dinner- a multi-course dinner with each course served at a different house. We are looking for volunteers who would like to host our 7th-12th grade youth for a part of the meal (appetizers, soup/salad, main course, or dessert) the evening of April 19<sup>th</sup>. The kids had a blast with this event last year and are really looking forward to it again! If interested or want more details, please contact Michelle Rottermond- 507-317-8338. We will also need drivers and second adults if you'd like to join the fun!

Save some space in your garden. The OSLC Youth will be selling a variety of tomatoes, peppers, and basil in early May.



Join us for WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS Wednesdays at 5:30pm, before the Midweek Lenten services.

Come enjoy good fellowship and a good meal before attending worship.

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.



## Mites - Mission Grants

Give God the Glory

Let us remember the recipients of our mission grants and the people they serve.

Your mites and prayers support ministries that share the Gospel, provide care and transform lives both near and far. Every gift, large or small helps us share the love of Christ. Looking at our District Mite goal, the biennium closes April 25, we still have many grants to complete. Thank you for all your generous gifts of mites. In March, we have a prayer guide that you can pick up in the Mission Center.

Our biennium mite collection ends on April 25<sup>th</sup>. MN South has mite grants that still need funding for 2024-2026. Bring your mite box from home to fill our Big Mite Box on Mite Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

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## Prayer Shawls

No prayer shawls were given out this month. If you'd like a prayer shawl or want to knit or crochet one, call Marcella, 507-317-4127.

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**LUTHERANS**  
FOR LIFE

“No place on earth should be safer refuge for that tiny innocent child than the womb, the place of *racham*, the place of mercy. Abortion invades and destroys that refuge, that mercy, at its very source. Sadly, abortion has become a part of the brutalization of human life, a sad commentary on the cruelty of human nature.”

*Rev. Paul Clark, Lutherans For Life Michigan*  
*A Life Quote from Lutherans for Life*

[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

## Our Savior Young at Heart/District S.A.G.E.S.

### LHM / LLL

Lutheran Hour Ministries  
Lutheran Layman League

The SAGES Board is asking each congregation in the MN South District to have a church representative. There should be someone at Our Savior's, 55 or over and filled with ideas for their peer group to enjoy Christian fellowship. Each year SAGES has one gathering on the first Monday and Tuesday in May at the Town & Country Suites in Mankato. This year it is May 4th – 5th. The Gathering theme is “Living on Purpose with Jesus”, with Rev. Greg Finke. Registration information will be in the Narthex and online. This will include all the workshops and our main presenter. **Representatives for the Board are needed for the Mankato/Arlington Circuits.** We are so thankful to welcome Rev. Bill Pieper to our Board.

**LHM Ministries** – be sure to listen to the Lutheran Hour on Sundays and read the Lutheran Layman magazine – for adults and children.

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



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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* to my church family friends for the thoughts, prayers, cards, and concern expressed while I continue heal from surgery and look toward moving to assisted living.

God bless you all – Dianne Schmidt

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**American  
Red Cross**

Blood  
Services

Our Savior's is hosting a blood drive for the American Red Cross on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from noon – 5pm. Appointments can be scheduled now at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) (enter OSLCMankato) or on the blood donor app. Or call the church office to schedule your donation, 507-385-2180. Give blood, save a life!

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**Martin Luther  
Jr/Sr High School**

**Ebony & Ivory  
OH! What a Knight! Dinner Auction  
Saturday, March 28**

**Tickets: \$40**

Purchase by March 20<sup>th</sup> to guarantee a seat

\*Best Dressed Contest ~ Wear black & White \*

\*Ties will be available for rent at the door \*

4:30pm Auction Preview & Social Hour

6:00pm Catered Dinner w/Live Auction to follow

Menu: Sunrise Cashew Salad, Bacon Wrapped Chicken Breast, Loaded Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans Almondine, and Desserts by Sweet Indeed, Madelia.

See auction preview pictures at [www.martinlutherhs.com](http://www.martinlutherhs.com)  
507-436-5249

# thrivent® Thrivent Choice Dollars

Remember, you have until the end of March to direct your Thrivent Choice monies to a charity of your choosing.

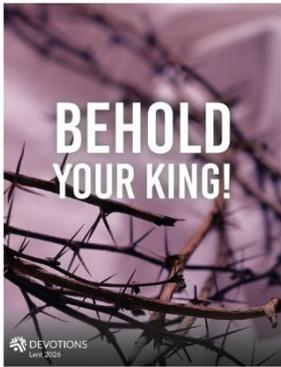
We hope you consider directing your monies to Our Savior Lutheran Church.

For a ‘how to’ guide on directing Choice Dollars, go to:

<https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/files/29100.pdf>

There’s also instructions on applying for a Thrivent Action Team.

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## **Lenten Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries. Behold Your King!**

In love, God sent His Son to redeem the world. In hatred, He was rejected. In *Behold Your King!*, we see the Savior stripped of His dignity, led away, and crucified on our behalf. No one could imagine this Man, this condemned and forsaken Man, was God in the flesh sent

to liberate us from our sin by His death and resurrection. That the Son of God joined us in our frail state of humanity is testament to God’s overwhelming love and concern for the world. And not only this, Jesus endured scorn and derision from His creation, His earthly subjects. And yet, as King, as Lord of all, He did the unthinkable: He laid down his life for the sins of the world.

Go to: <https://www.lhm.org/lent/> to download a copy, or subscribe to have them delivered right to your inbox, access on your mobile device with the free app, or listen with Spotify, iHearth Radio, Alexa, or Google Home. Copies are also available in the narthex for you to take.



Articles for the April 2026 VOICE are due by Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at noon. You may drop-off submissions in the office, or e-mail to: [contact@oslcmankato.org](mailto:contact@oslcmankato.org).

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Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Remember to set your clocks AHEAD one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

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## Church Pictorial Directories

The Photo Directories are here! If you had your photo taken have not had an opportunity to pick up your free copy before or after a church service, stop in the office during regular business to get yours. If you did not have your photo taken but would still like a copy, the cost is just \$9.

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## LCMS Stewardship Ministry

As a kid, I remember my Grandma and Grandpa Diepholz' home with extraordinary joy. Family fun. Great food. A legacy of faith. One of my lasting memories of that house was the table that sat between their twin beds. It contained a lamp, a Bible, a catechism and a hymnal. These were well-worn, as Grandpa read to Grandma every night before they went to sleep! What a treasure these tools of faith are! Let us spend some time this month in the hymnal to help us better understand our life as Christian stewards! To do this, we will use *LSB 785* "We Praise You, O God."

*We Praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
In grateful devotion our tributes we bring.  
We lay it before You, and kneel and adore You;  
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.*

Stewardship is an act of worship. It flows from the grace and mercy we have received in Jesus! Faithful stewardship can never start with us. Our sinful nature will make us and our desires the center of our worship. Our tributes, our giving and our serving only flow from how the Lord Jesus has given of Himself for our sake! When we have this in clear view, our knees bow and our praises flow freely! All this flows from the Name that has been placed on us in Holy Baptism!

*We worship You, God of our Fathers, we bless You;  
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.  
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,  
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.*

Our stewardship that flows from what God has done for us in Jesus Christ is rooted in history. Passed from one generation to the next, stewards of the Gospel connect God's provision in the past to His continued care in the present.

So often, the struggles we face are self-inflicted. While there are indeed perils that can shake us from outside of ourselves, we are more likely enduring the suffering that comes because of our own choices that are outside the Word and will of God! But even in these situations, the Lord who loves us will never forsake us. When we become selfish, self-serving and self-destructive, the

Lord NEVER abandons! The Lord helps us to overcome the struggles in faith and win the victory the steward rejoices in!

*With voices united our praises we offer  
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.  
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.  
To You, our great redeemer, forever be praise!*

Stewardship is more than just an individual thing. There is a corporate nature to our steward life. We see this in the Divine Service. There, stewards of all ages, all economic strata and all languages are joined in the singular task of praise. This stewardship of praise flows from the altar to us, out into the world and then back to the altar! God's strong arm leads us in this stewardship 24/7. This makes stewardship, in all times and places, a matter of worship. We praise our Redeemer who has entrusted us with this great stewardship of the Gospel which forgives our sins, grants us new life and salvation. And this treasure we freely share for God's glory and the benefit of our neighbor!

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**Man Up! Men's Retreat**  
March 6 – 7

Adult men and their sons or grandsons (age 16 and older) are invited to be challenged, encouraged, and refreshed during a 24-hour retreat where faith will be strengthened and spirits renewed by God's Word.

Go to: <https://campomega.org/event/manup/> for more information or to register.

## 2026 EASTER GARDEN ORDER FORM

Plant(s) purchased...

Type of Plant	Quantity	Cost	Total Cost
Easter Lily (6")	#	x \$21.00	\$
Azalea (6")	#	x \$40.00	\$
Blue Hydrangea (6")	#	x \$35.00	\$
Tulip (6")	#	x \$17.00	\$
Daffodil (6")	#	x \$17.00	\$
Mum (6")	#	x \$20.00	\$
Kalanchoe (6")	#	x \$20.00	\$
Rieger Begonia (6")	#	x \$20.00	\$
<b>Totals</b>	#		\$

- In Memory of...
- In Honor of...
- In Appreciation of...
- Sponsored by...

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(name of the person to put on the plant)

Name and phone number of purchaser (in case we need to verify):

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(name)

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(phone)

**Please make checks payable to *Our Savior's Youth*.**

- I do not wish to take my plant home. Please find a suitable home for it.

Please drop off your order form with payment at the church office,  
or in the payment lock box in the narthex

**LAST DAY TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, MARCH 8<sup>th</sup>**

*You may pick up your plant(s) Easter Sunday after the 10:30 service, or the following week. Please pick up by Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>*

*\*Note\* The office is closed Easter Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.*

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

**Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
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Mankato, MN  
Permit No. 216**

**THANK YOU ALL CONTRIBUTORS**

Marcella Eilders  
Karen Fischer  
Priscilla Fladland  
Mel Hendrickson  
Rhonda Rastedt  
Susan Sembach  
Vicky Senne

**Address Service Requested**

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*March 2026*

**MARCH 2026**

**Our Savior Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9:00 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 Trustees 7:00 MN Valley Chorale</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>1:00 Private Confession 1:30 Midweek Lenten Service 4:40 Introductory Choir 5:00 Introductory Bell Choir 5:25 Handbell Choir 5:30 Meal 6:00 Private Confession 6:05 Brass 6:30 Midweek Lenten Service 7:20 Jr. Conf. / Vocal Choir</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 10:10 Ruth/Lydia Circle</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service 4:30 Book Club</p> <p><i>Easter Garden Order Deadline</i></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>9:00 Quilting</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study 6:30 Planning Council 7:00 MN Valley Chorale</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>1:00 Private Confession 1:30 Midweek Lenten Service 4:40 Introductory Choir 5:00 Introductory Bell Choir 5:25 Handbell Choir 5:30 Meal 6:00 Private Confession 6:05 Brass 6:30 Midweek Lenten Service 7:20 Jr. Conf. / Vocal Choir</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>1:30 Mary Circle Bible Study</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p>Mite Sunday <b>15</b></p> <p>8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service 12:00 Youth Event: Curling</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study 7:00 MN Valley Chorale</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>1:30 Private Confession 1:30 Midweek Lenten Service 4:00 Mission Service 4:40 Introductory Choir 5:00 Introductory Bell Choir 5:25 Handbell Choir 5:30 Meal 6:00 Private Confession 6:05 Brass 6:30 Midweek Lenten Service 7:20 Jr. Conf. / Vocal Choir</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 Stephen Ministers</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>12:00 The Voice Deadline 6:30 Women's Retreat</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>8:30 Women's Retreat</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service 4:30 Book Club</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9:00 Quilting</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study 7:00 MN Valley Chorale</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>1:00 Private Confession 1:30 Midweek Lenten Service 4:40 Introductory Choir 5:00 Introductory Bell Choir 5:25 Handbell Choir 5:30 Meal 6:00 Private Confession 6:05 Brass 6:30 Midweek Lenten Service 7:20 Jr. Conf. / Vocal Choir</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study 7:00 MN Valley Chorale</p>				

## 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>
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## Congregational Officers and Elected Board Members

<b>President</b> Dan Gahler 507-995-3634	<b>Vice President</b> Judd Schultz 507-317-9932	<b>Secretary</b> Eileen Heintz 507-329-5195	<b>Treasurer</b> Gary Fladland 507-469-2086	<b>Financial Secretary</b> Vacant
<b>Council Members at Large</b> Nancy Benson      507-345-1015 Gideon Baldwin      307-941-0803 Mark Wellner      507-341-1393 Vacant	<b>Board of Elders</b> Randy Burmeister      507-720-6985 Tom Benson      507-345-1015 Mike Anderson      507-469-8619 Gaylen Lenz      507-317-4269 Gene Mensing-Vice Chair      507-387-4908 Andrew Bittner-Chair      507-779-9593 Joel Maunula-Secretary      320-296-0954 Mike Blomquist      507-351-5051 Jordan Treanor      507-317-6863 Vacant Vacant Vacant	<b>Board of Trustees</b> Kurt Anderson      507-381-9537 Steve Dumke      507-388-1297 Chris Anderson      507-382-9450 Kirk Yungerberg      507-327-5537 Bob Baker      507-327-2922 Mark Senne      507-995-7250	<b>Board of Education</b> Samantha Tess - Chair      507-217-0354 Rhonda Prince      507-521-0690 Bev Annis      507-278-3093 Mary Bittner      507-469-8052 Darcy Chapman      507-382-5577 Kristen Flathers      563-212-9506	
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