

Program for the Week of December 14 – December 21, 2025

Sunday:

8:00 Divine Service
9:00 Coffee Time
9:25 Bible Class
10:30 Divine Service
4:30 Book Club
6:00 Youth Christmas Lights
Scavenger Hunt

Monday:

3:00 McGowan Memorial Svc

Tuesday:

10:00 Staff Meeting

1:00 Tuesday Bible Study

Wednesday:

1:30 Midweek Advent Service
4:45 Introductory Choir
5:05 Introductory Bell Choir
5:25 Handbell Choir
5:30 Meal
6:05 Brass
6:30 Midweek Advent Service
7:20 Jr. Confirmation
7:20 Vocal Choir

Thursday:

9:00 Private Confession
10:00 Bulletin Deadline

Friday:

4:00 The Voice Deadline

Saturday:

Sunday: *Mite Sunday*

9:00 Children's Christmas Service
10:00 Christmas Reception

Sunday Matins is sponsored by Doris Emich in loving memory of Ron.

This morning we recognize Dylan Holicky as a member of our congregation by Profession of Faith. He will publicly speak his belief in the Faith taught in the Holy Scriptures and confirmed in the Small Catechism. Please greet and welcome Dylan as your new brother in Christ.

It's time for our youth Annual Christmas Lights Scavenger Hunt and pizza party!!! Meet at the church December 14th from 6-8pm for some pizza and then we'll break into groups for our Christmas Lights Scavenger Hunt. This event is open to Grades 3-12. We are looking for adult drivers and second adults to help us with this event! Even if you don't have a youth in the church, feel free to jump in! Please let Michelle Rottermond know if you can help!

The Deadline for the January 2026 issue of *The Voice* is Friday, December 19th at 4pm. Please drop off any submissions in the church office or e-mail to: contact@oslcmandato.org. Thank you.

Christmas Reception next Sunday following the Children's Christmas Service.

It is the Season of giving. Please consider the gift of your time by helping at Our Savior. The funeral committee is in desperate need of volunteers. Helpers are needed setting the tables, serving and cleanup after the meal. Also in great need is anyone that would be willing to learn how to run the dishwasher. Please contact Judy Mensing 507-420-8196 Cindy Hobbs 507-995-9894, Mary Bittner 507-469-8052 or Gretchen Zellmer 507-327-2904.

2025 Church Directory – If you would like additional copies of the directory (each family that was

photographed will receive one automatically), or if you were not photographed, but would still like a copy, please let us know by December 29th – The extra directories will cost \$9 each.

Are you looking for a nice Christmas gift idea? How about a 75th OSLC Anniversary mug? We have some extras out in the Narthex for sale both before and after the Church services today and will be available next Sunday as well.

Trudy Wiechmann and Ruthann McGowan thank the members of Our Saviors for their many prayers and for the love they have shown us during these times of illness. Bill McGowan's memorial service will be held here at Our Saviors on December 15th at 3 pm. Please join us.

Ruth/Lydia Bible Study was cancelled on December 11th until January 8th, the second Thursday, at 10:10, including lunch.

Thank you! To all volunteers, those who graciously shared their candles and to all in attendance, you made the Women's Advent Event a blessing for everyone. Nancy and Trudy.

Ladies: If you shared your candles for the Advent Event, please remember to pick them up from the Mission room.

Watch our services on YouTube, livestreamed, or view later at your convenience. Access from our website www.oslcmandato.org or from YouTube (www.youtube.com), search for our channel, oslcmandato.

Shut-in Card Volunteers: The sign-up sheet for 2026 is on the LWML Bulletin Board. Thank you, Dolly Blomquist, 507-388-4594

Anyone interested in placing flowers for our worship services in December, please contact Judy Mensing, phone 507-387-4908.

Prayer Shawl: If you, or someone you know, may find comfort in a Prayer Shawl, please call Marcella B. Elders, 507-317-4127.

Save the date! Our January youth event (grades 5-12) will be held at the MSU Rock Climbing Wall January 11th from 6-8pm. The suggested chip in amount for this event is \$15- youth funds are available to cover if needed.

The MITE Grant Focus for December is #5": Growing together to share Braille and Large Print, Lutheran Braille Workers, \$100,000. December 21st, the third Sunday of the month, is Mite Sunday here at Our Savior Lutheran Church. A Mite Box Prayer Guide is available in the Mission Center, along with the list of Grants for 2025-2027. Your generosity is filling our Big Mite Box with coins, Purple 5's, and more, making it possible to complete goals of 2 million dollars and more to make Christ known in just two years! Many thanks!

WS Transportation (420-4503 or 388-0708) will provide rides to services for our members who call and arrange pick up times. This benefit is not limited to weekend services only. You may arrange a ride for a mid-week services and activities, such as choir practice, any of our meetings and other special services, i.e. Lenten services. Please call one-half to one hour ahead of time. This benefit is provided by the Taxi Fund.

From the Stewardship Committee: Matthew 11:10 – "This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'" John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus' ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out His disciples to preach "repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 24:47). We never outgrow the need for repentance — for examining our lives, turning away from our sins and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive his forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.

Listen to KFUE.ORG, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. All programs are archived at www.KFUE.org for 24/7 on-demand listening. Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This week we're continuing our series,

"Yearning for the Day of Christ's Returning" on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8am)! This week, we'll be studying 1 Thessalonians 5-2 Thessalonians 2. Tune into Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11am) as we continue our series, "Prophecy and Fulfillment, looking at Old Testament prophecies fulfilled by Christ in the New. On the Coffee Hour this week (weekdays at 9am), we have some fun things to share, including a new learning opportunity through Concordia Nebraska, and an update from the Lutheran Heritage Foundation.

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2. This week's *This is the Life* episode is "Christmas Is" – The shepherd in a Christmas play learns the importance of Christmas. The worship service begins at 9:30am with Rev. Brent Klein from Trinity Lutheran Church in Northfield, who will present a message titled "Is Jesus the Savior?" based on Matthew 11:2-25. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab.

Answering Arguments Against Christianity...

The Christian God is Misogynistic, The Meaning of Life Is Found in Using Technology, We Don't Need the Christian God to Be Good. Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to responses to common objections to Christianity at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

E-News for the ladies: Go to: <https://mnslwml.org/newsletters> (this is the Minnesota South Site), or <https://lwml.org> (this is the National site).

Keep up with the events and activities around the Minnesota South District from the District e-news at <https://www.mnsdistrict.org/publications#weekly-enews>. You can even subscribe to get the e-news delivered right to your inbox.

SAGES – As of January 1, 2026, there will be no more USPS copies of Sagacity being mailed. All copies may come to you personally, or you may pick them up in the narthex. Remember the Sagacity is the older adult news from the district. **Living on Purpose with Jesus** is the gathering theme for the first Monday and Tuesday in May, at Town and Country Suites, Mankato. Mark your calendar now, for this special gathering.