

November/
December 2025

The Common Thread

Newsletter of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Community Thanksgiving Meal

November 27th, Noon

Lots of volunteers needed to prep, cook, serve, make pies, and donate supplies. Sign ups coming soon.

Join us for the meal and fellowship - takeouts available by calling the church.



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who donated to our fall food pantry drive, from porch to pantry! A huge shout out to the youth who not only collected items, but stayed to sort, weigh, and stock them as well! We collected over 1,300 pounds of non-perishable items and multiple financial gifts!

Women's Christmas Party

December 1st at 6pm

Invite a friend! Women of all ages are welcome to join us! In lieu of a gift, please bring an item to donate to the food pantry.

Blue Christmas

"The Longest Night Service"

Sunday, December 21 at 6:30pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24th, 4:30pm



Giving Back this Season

This upcoming Christmas season, we will have a Community Giving tree mixed in with our decorated trees. Each ornament on the tree sponsors one food pantry family and provides them with a ham, turkey, or turkey breast and side dishes for Christmas.



From the Pastor's Office

While the Christmas theme of this newsletter might catch you saying “Hold up, Halloween just ended, it’s not Christmas yet!”, I’ve been planning our Advent and Christmas season behind the scenes for months. Through conversation and discernment, it has been said again and again that there is simply too much to pack into the month of December - special church services, Christmas concerts, performances, parties, family activities, community events, etc... December seems to be so filled to the brim with activities, I’m not sure we as modern day Christians have any idea how to observe the season of Advent - with quiet, still, reflective waiting. No, our preparing Christmas is much faster and more chaotic than Advent was ever intended to be. So this year, I am inviting you to actually observe Advent by taking one thing off your calendar. Instead of midweek Advent services, we will be taking the season “off” and providing at home materials to help you prepare your home and heart for the coming of Christ. These materials will be available the week of Thanksgiving and are for you to spend time in God’s word at your own pace, with your people.

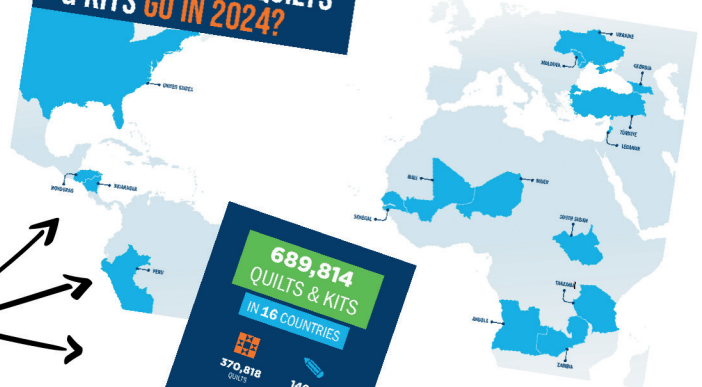
The only “extra” service we will be doing this year will be a “Blue Christmas” service - a contemplative, quiet service in which we strip down the season to acknowledge that for some, Christmas is not a happy time of year but can carry grief and difficulty. This will be on Sunday, December 21st at 6:30pm. Come join us and invite a friend who might need to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ coming into the world in less rambunctious way.



GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

**76 School Kits were
assembled and sent off
this fall! Thank you for
your generosity!**

WHERE DID LWR QUILTS & KITS GO IN 2024?



Bags were packed into boxes and dropped off at the collection site in Grand Forks to be hauled to the warehouse in Minneapolis.

Bags will be shipped all over the world to students in need.

What's happening at OSLC?

Tech Updates

As we have been updating our worship tech, more issues continue to arise and we are needing to update our entire sound system - this is a huge and expensive undertaking. This project will be taking place over the next few months as we bring in companies to help us. **Please consider donating toward our worship technology updates by sponsoring a livestream.** Choose a date, pick a donation amount, and sponsor that morning in honor or memory of someone. Call the office to set your date or send a note with your donation.

Financial Snapshot

as of Nov. 11, 2025

2025 Income

\$151,598.12

Expenses

\$182,959.24

Current Net Loss:

-\$31,638.16

*Special Harvest Offering
Envelopes are available
at the church for the
month of November.*

*Coming Soon: Online
Giving & Text to Give!*

Bulletin Changes

We have deemed this programming year “the year of the Bible” and are **encouraging people to bring their own Bibles to church** to follow along with the readings. This not only helps us learn how to use our Bibles but allows you to write notes or make markings for your own spiritual growth as you take the readings home with you each week.

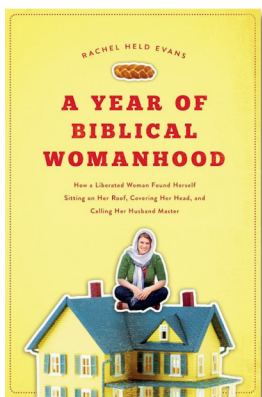
The Psalm for the week can be found in our hymnals and is how we know what words to read, when. Please grab a bookmark or bring your own to quickly find the right page.

Prayer requests can be left on our prayer wall or submitted by calling the office. Names will be left in the bulletin and our weekly prayers for one month, unless requested otherwise.

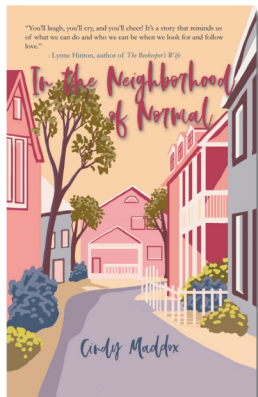


Join us for book club!

November 30th & January 25th at 7:30pm



November



January

Faith & Care Sign-Ups



November
(Group 3)



December
(Group 4)



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

December 21st during Sunday Morning Worship

Program practice begins November 23.

Youth Group Christmas Party

(Wednesday) December 17th @ 6:30pm

Bring a \$10 gift to exchange

Location change: will meet at Grafton Lutheran Church



Noisy Offering

Our youth will be collecting Noisy Offering on November 16th and December 21st.

Don't forget to bring your spare change to worship.



Our youth programs have been busy this fall! Games, learning, and fellowship! Sunday school and connect programs are well underway and our new combined youth group with our area churches has been a hit! We have been busy and would love to keep the momentum going - come join us!

****We will break from youth programs the weeks after Christmas and resume January 11. ****

Volunteers are needed!

Sign up to lead a class, provide a meal, or drive a carpool! We need help to make this year of programming a success for our youth!



Sunday School
Teaching



Connect
Leading



Youth Group
Meals & Drivers



Contact Us

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