

The Common Thread

Newsletter of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

September/October
2025



Honey Sundays

October 5th & 12th

Purchase a bottle of honey: Change the life of a child

Honey Sundays, hosted by congregations all across the US, support the residential treatment and educational programs for the troubled, complicated, and amazing children at Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch.

Honey purchased will be shipped directly to your homes.
Bottles are \$10 and proceeds are split with our congregation.

\$7 per bottle benefits DBGR and \$3 benefits OSLC youth.

If you want to order honey but will not be in church these days,
you can call the church to order.



*Your Gifts
are Needed!*

Can you help in one or
more of these places?

Communion Bread
Baker

Lefse Makers

Sunday School
Teachers

Youth Group Cooks

Worship Assistants

Potluck Dishes

Buildings and
Grounds Volunteers

RALLY SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 14TH

9am: Registrations & Games

10: Worship with Bible Presentations

11: Potluck & School Kit Assembly



From the Pastor's Office

I'd like a month off. Not a month of vacation or time away from work, but a month off from surprises, a month off from grief, a month off from adapting to new normals. I want to wake up in the morning, on time, and without finding out someone is sick. I want to make a meal plan that goes according to schedule because nothing suddenly comes up. I want routine appointments to feel like a waste of time because nothing new happens. I want to budget and not have a car problem arise, a new medical bill, or any other unexpected expenses.

Have you ever felt that way? Like life is just one big jumble of chaos where you survive one situation just to be thrown into the next? Summer has been so busy that many of our members haven't been around but those who have seem to have this ongoing theme of being overwhelmed, overscheduled, and dealing with some sort of unexpected situation. These range from new diagnoses, repetitive appointments that require travel, employment changes, crop damage, loss of loved ones, relationship stresses, youth activity schedules, and feeling like we have to say yes to everything which is leading to burn out. Let's be honest - being human is exhausting. Life, while wonderful and a gift from God, can be burden filled and heavy.

Too often we look at other people around us and assume they have it all together and their lives must some how be easier than ours - but I'm here to tell you that no one has it all together or is immune from the struggles of life - we just all have become very good at stuffing it all down and compartmentalizing. However, I have also learned, whether it's a midwest thing or a human thing, that we are a group of people who are very good at adapting. We are a people who are used to enduring difficult times, changing seasons, and conditions incompatible with simplicity and life.

Isaiah 43:2, says: "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze". We are people who, even when we pass through deep waters, know and trust that God is with us and that we are capable of journeying through the difficult things. We know that seasons of grief and struggle exist, but so do seasons of great joy. Our faith reminds us that while God never promises that being human will be easy, God does promise to never leave us or forsake us. But if that doesn't feel all that helpful of a reminder and you need someone to talk to or just to listen to you grieve the difficult pieces of life - know that my door is always open.

A blessing for the mundane:

***"May God bless you with mundane routine.
May the days, weeks, and months ahead be
boring and uneventful. May you not be
surprised by the winds of change or grief.
May you be blessed with unchanged
schedules, routine, and the beauty of
ordinary moments.***

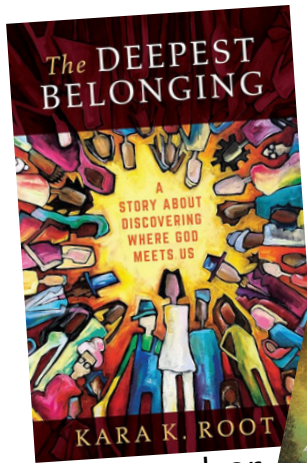


What's happening at OSLC?



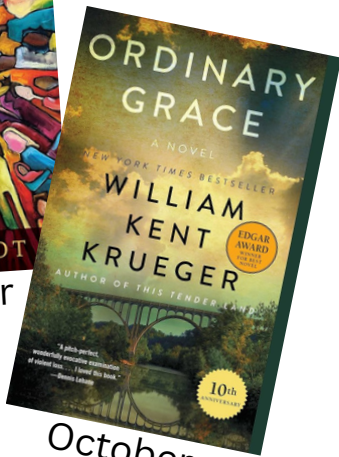
September 21, 28, October 5,12,26, November 2
Join us for a 6 week study of Matthew 5-7

The Sermon on the Mount contains some of Jesus most profound and most memorable teachings. What might these teachings have mean to his disciples, and to the others who first heard them? How, if we pay careful attention to his words, does Jesus provide us a road map to living as God would have us live?



September

Join us for book club!
September 28th at 7pm



October

We had so much fun this summer, we are going to keep the club going! Join us the last Sunday of every month - book suggestions welcome!

Financial Snapshot

as of August 7, 2025

2025 Income

\$107,685.21

2025 Expenses

\$136,293.48

Current Net Loss:

-\$28,608.27

Tech Issues!

We are in the process of troubleshooting and updating our livestream equipment. Sundays may or may not have videos for the next month or two. Please bear with us as we adapt to the needs of the time.



September
(Group 1)



October
(Group 2)

Faith & Care Sign-Ups



Thank you to everyone who donated to VBS this year! It was a great success with over 50 campers!

Youth Program Start Dates

Sunday School, for our 3 year olds – 4th graders, will begin September 21st.

**Connect, for our 5th – 8th graders, will begin September 17th.
Connect will be held Wednesdays after school from 4-5pm.**

**Confirmation begins September 17th.
We meet the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesday from 3:45-5:15.**

**Youth group, for 7-12th grade, will begin September 14th and meets from 6:00-8:00pm the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, rotating between Park River, Hoople, and Grafton.
A carpool and meal will be provided each gathering.**

**All registrations will be done online.
Please register each of your youth
prior to the first day of their program.**



Volunteers are needed!

Sign up to lead a class, provide a meal, or drive a carpool and win a prize! Every sign up earns you a ticket in the drawing for gift cards, an owala waterbottle, a brumate, and dry-erase family calendar. Drawing will be held September 15th.



Sunday School
Teaching



Connect
Leading



Youth Group
Meals & Drivers



Contact Us

Pastor Kayla: pastorkaylahill@gmail.com
Pastor's Cell: 701.226.1684
Margaret (office): oslcparkriver@gmail.com
Website: www.oslcparkriver.com

