



OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORTS 2025

Prepared for :
January 2026



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OPENING LITURGY

Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.

And also with you.

Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Descend on our hearts, that we may love others in the ways Jesus loves us.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Empower us to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others.

Receive our prayer, O God.

As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

Amen.

Founded on Faith

1 Found - ed on faith, the church— a - live by grace—
2 Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.
3 E - quipped by prayer, we live the Spir - it's call.
4 Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,
5 Found - ed on faith, called forth, em - pow'ed to serve,

pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.
Bap - tized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
Em - pow'ed to serve with gifts, both great and small,
we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;
we share God's end - less love with - out re - serve.

The word of God re - sounds through time and space:
Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say;
we bring the liv - ing hope of God to all.
a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.
Then let us shout a - loud the liv - ing Word!

Al - le - lu - ia!

All Creation Sings, 1048

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A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP YEHIEL CURRY

Dear friends in Christ,

As Lutherans, we are set free to love our neighbors and seek justice. In Colossians 2, we read: “As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving” (6-7).

I am abounding in thankfulness for you, church. You are an integral part of this mission as we envision a world experiencing the difference God’s grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation. The ministries of congregations including yours, our synods and the ELCA churchwide organization are all working together today and every day so more people may know the way of Jesus and discover community, justice and love. From providing food to people experiencing hunger, to helping train the next generation of leaders that will lead this church, your support is at work here at home and around the world.

Your generosity to each of the three expressions of the church — your congregation, your synod and the churchwide organization — has made it possible for us to do this work

together. Your financial resources, your time volunteering and accompanying others, and your voices are so valued.

As we look ahead to the coming year, I encourage you to continue to walk in Christ, remembering you are rooted and established in faith, and free to love and serve your neighbors. Thank you, church, for the ways you connect with and support our siblings across the ELCA and in our communities.

In Christ,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yehiel Curry'.

The Rev. Yehiel Curry
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

—Colossians 2:6-7



Eastern North Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2026 Bishop Election Timeline

FEBRUARY 5, 2026

Sitting Bishop must submit written notification to the synod nominating committee at least 120 days prior to the Synod Assembly as to their intentions for seeking another term.

MARCH 7, 2026

The secretary and officers of each conference shall tabulate the names submitted by congregations and report the results to the synod Nominating Committee by this date.

APRIL 16, 2026

Nominating Committee shall tabulate the results of the conference assembly votes as reported to the committee by the secretary of each conference. The Nominating Committee shall identify the 7 pastors, plus any tie for the 7th place, named by the greatest number of conferences.

MAY 18, 2026

The secretary of the Synod shall obtain a comparable biographical summary of each of the 7 ministers identified by the Nominating Committee.

JUNE 5, 2026

On First Ballot of Assembly:

Nominations may be received from voting members attending assembly.

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Congregations of the synod may submit the names of up to three ministers of Word and Sacrament of the ELCA to the secretary of their conference

APRIL 1, 2026

Conference assemblies shall be held to vote on a maximum of seven names per conference from a list as tabulated from conference reports to the synod Nominating Committee.

MAY 5, 2026

The 7 ministers, plus any tie for 7th place, shall be available for open forums to be established by the Synod Council.

JUNE 5-7, 2026

Eastern ND Synod Assembly

JUNE 6-7, 2026

Ballots 2-5 take place until an election takes place.

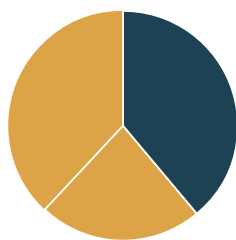
MISSION SUPPORT: WHAT DOES MY OFFERING DO?

Eastern North Dakota Synod

Every week, Lutherans across the country gather to worship. Many of us give to our congregation as part of this experience. ELCA members give about \$1.6 billion annually as regular offerings to ELCA congregations and worshipping communities. When you give your offering, most of it stays with your congregation to fund its vital work. A portion — about 5%, on average — becomes Mission Support, given by your congregation to your synod. In FY2024 the Eastern North Dakota Synod shared \$348,074 in Mission Support for ELCA churchwide ministries. Because of Mission Support, our hands can do God's work in more places than any one person or congregation could alone. Together we experience the way of Jesus; discover community, justice and love; and help more people experience the difference God's grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation.



Your **MISSION SUPPORT** funds a variety of churchwide ministries.

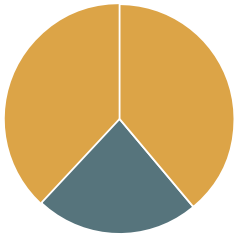


38% BUILDS CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES in the United States by enabling us to:

Thank you for \$132,268 from the Eastern North Dakota Synod for these ministries!

- Plant and support hundreds of worshipping communities.
- Revitalize congregational ministries and reach out to their surrounding communities.
- Promote leadership opportunities, discernment and education through leadership initiatives.
- Support the work of seven ELCA seminaries and 27 ELCA colleges and universities.
- Host events and leadership opportunities for youth and young adults.
- Support regional work through directors for evangelical mission as well as candidacy and leadership managers.
- Prepare and implement a system for recruiting and assigning rostered ministers.

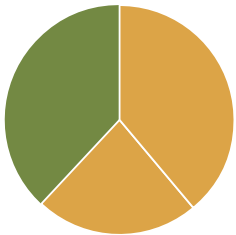




Another **23% GROWS THE GLOBAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** and addresses issues around the world, enabling us to:

Thank you for \$80,057 from the Eastern North Dakota Synod for these ministries!

- Accompany new Lutheran churches, expand ministries and train leaders and evangelists.
- Send missionaries to accompany communities around the world.
- Address social inequities and work for justice.
- Cultivate and maintain relationships with 149 other churches through the Lutheran World Federation to strengthen the church and its global work.
- Foster relationships between ELCA synods and 65 companion churches, for a total of 127 official relationships.
- Work with leaders and members of our African-descent, American Indian, Alaska Native, Arab, Middle Eastern, Asian, Pacific Islander and Latiné communities.



Finally, **39% STRENGTHENS AND SUSTAINS THE MINISTRY and MISSION** of the whole church, enabling us to:

Thank you for \$135,749 from the Eastern North Dakota Synod for these ministries!

- Offer ministry resources and opportunities to lay leaders for networking.
- Develop social messages of the ELCA as topical documents to focus attention and action on timely, pressing matters of concern to church and society.
- Sustain ecumenical and interfaith relations.
- Partner with congregations and ministries across the church as they explore new, innovative ways of being church in a constantly changing world.
- Invest in technology and communications.
- Engage in research and strategic planning.
- Create and share resources for faith, discipleship, prayer, stewardship and worship.



Thank you for your ongoing support and faithful partnership! For stories of your impact, visit LivingLutheran.org/SOFIA. To find additional Mission Support resources, visit ELCA.org/SOFIA. Scan the QR code to view the new Mission Support video "What Does My Offering Do?"



Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2025

Call to Order

- With a quorum present, the annual meeting of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church was called to order at 10:53 am by Council President Britt Jacobson.

Opening Prayer

- Pastor Kayla led with an opening prayer.

Secretary's Report - Minutes January 21, 2024 Meeting

- Minutes from Jan. 21 2024 Annual Meeting were printed in the annual report. Britt asked for any addendums to the minutes.
- Jordan Hollingsworth /Susan Degner M/S/C to approve the 2024 Minutes.

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report for 2024 was given by Dori Carlson. Total operating income was \$213, 845.90 and the total operating expenses \$202,422.23 with a Net Income of 11,423.67.
- Over 48,000 in the checking account, and approximately \$45,000 in CD's.
- Susan Degner/ Jordan Hollingsworth M/S/C to approve 2024 Treasurer's Report

Pastor's Report

- Pastor Kayla's report was written in the annual report highlighting her service throughout the year. Britt thanked Kayla for her service to our entire community.

Committee Reports - Review/Answer Questions

- Committee Reports were printed in the annual report and were reviewed prior to the meeting.

Old Business

- No Old Business

New Business

- 2025 Proposed Budget
 - Dori Carlson highlighted these changes - insurance rates are increasing, maintenance for church and parsonage (windows and lighting at church) Pastoral ministry, pulpit supply, tax expenses.
 - The proposed budget includes total revenue of \$254,100.00 and total expenses of \$254,100.00.
 - Questions/Answers:
 - Requested Choir Director funding for a Chime Choir for \$150.00.
 - Question on youth director travel fund; That fund is in place for travel for youth group trips.

- Plans have been made by Executive Council to continue raising hourly rates of staff members gradually over several years.
 - Susan Degner/ Aaron Kjelland M/S/C to approve the 2025 proposed budget.
- 2025 Elections
 - Nathan Kjelland/Jordan Hollingsworth M/S/C nominations cease and that we cast a unanimous ballot.
 - Church Council - Mike Helmeke, Jordan Eidenshink, Jenny Holland
 - EaND Synod Assembly Voting Members Larry Gaarder, Lori Gaarder
 - Nominating Committee - Orville Kjelland (3 year term), Sam Lee (2 year term), Lorie Clemetson (1 year term)
 - Endowment Committee - John Blair
 - PRBC Voting Members - Susan Degner, Jonathon Dusek, Aaron Kjelland
 - Sunset Home Representatives - Linda Seim, Susan Degner
 - Cemetery Board -- Roger Seim

Thank You and Acknowledgements

- Thank you to Jordan Hollingsworth and Larry Gaarder for their service on Church Council.
- Thank you to Pastor Kayla for the gifts she gives our congregation.
- Thank you to everyone who steps up for our congregation and goes above and beyond membership to make our church grow and thrive.

Adjourn

- Aaron Kjelland/Linda Seim M/S/C to adjourn at 11:17.

Statement of Financial Position

Our Saviour's Lutheran

As of December 31, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
CD	46,223.89
Checking - General Fund	49,021.48
Endowment Fund - Thrivent	48,452.88
Memorial Fund - MMDA	9,275.23
Parking Lot Fund - MMDA	0.00
Savings Account - MMDA	11,220.61
Thrivent Saving Account	56,676.06
Total for Bank Accounts	\$220,870.15
Total for Current Assets	\$220,870.15
Fixed Assets	
Property	278,165.65
Total for Fixed Assets	\$278,165.65
Total for Assets	\$499,035.80
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
First United Visa	0.00
Total for Credit Cards	\$0.00
Other Current Liabilities	
Direct Deposit Payable	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	\$34.68
Federal Income Tax Payable	0.00
Federal Taxes (941/944)	-153.78
FICA Tax Payable	-5.00
FSA Payable	0.00
Health FSA	4,598.74
ND Income Tax	9.40
ND State Income Tax Payable	-13.95
ND Unemployment Tax	0.00
Ret W/H	12,040.19
Term Life Insurance	582.40
Total for Payroll Liabilities	\$17,092.68
Total for Other Current Liabilities	\$17,092.68
Total for Current Liabilities	\$17,092.68
Total for Liabilities	\$17,092.68

Statement of Financial Position

Our Saviour's Lutheran

As of December 31, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT		TOTAL
Equity		
Opening Balance Equity		367,110.05
Unrestricted Net Assets		121,290.19
Net Income		-6,457.12
Total for Equity		\$481,943.12
Total for Liabilities and Equity		\$499,035.80

Statement of Activity

Our Saviour's Lutheran

January-December, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Income	
Non-Operating Income	
Memorials	650.00
Thrivent Choice Dollars	282.00
Total for Non-Operating Income	\$932.00
Operating Income	
Envelope Offerings	56,882.00
Fundraisers	
Cookbooks	100.00
Groundhog/Syttende Mai	3,412.00
Total for Fundraisers	\$3,512.00
Hospitality	456.28
Interest Earned	1,014.68
Live Stream Broadcast	200.00
Miscellaneous Income	940.00
Mission Offerings	2,174.70
Non-Envelope Offerings	59,536.04
Other Seasonal Offerings	3,904.00
Simply Giving General Offerings	77,455.00
Sunday School/VBS Offerings	2,676.04
Text To Give	115.40
Total for Operating Income	\$208,866.14
Total for Income	\$209,798.14
Gross Profit	\$209,798.14
Expenses	
Operating Exp - Church Home	
Bank Service Charges	667.33
Cleaning Service	3,275.00
Fundraising Expense	
Fundraiser Exp - Syttende Mai	1,011.55
Total for Fundraising Expense	\$1,011.55
Improvements	2,176.32
Insurance Expense	12,240.00
Maintenance - Church	27,395.56
Maintenance - Parsonage	2,544.20
Office Equipment (lease)	2,436.45
Technology	5,585.90
Utilities - Church	15,935.42
Utilities - Parsonage	5,908.83
Total for Operating Exp - Church Home	\$79,176.56

Statement of Activity

Our Saviour's Lutheran

January-December, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Operating Exp - Home Missions	
Convention	1,281.45
Miscellaneous	365.00
Organist/Pianist	3,600.00
Parish Secretary	10,179.50
Pastoral Continuing Education	137.03
Pastoral Ministry	53,933.98
Pastoral Pension/Insurance	29,791.70
Pastoral Travel	1,103.40
Pulpit Supply	3,285.92
Sound Board	2,500.00
Youth Director	375.00
Total for Operating Exp - Home Missions	\$106,552.98
Operating Exp - Payroll O/H	
Workers Compensation	250.00
Total for Operating Exp - Payroll O/H	\$250.00
Operating Exp - World Missions	
Concordia Scholarships	75.00
Eastern North Dakota Synod	6,600.00
Miscellaneous Missions	3,856.16
Park River Bible Camp	3,300.00
Total for Operating Exp - World Missions	\$13,831.16
Operating Exp - Worship/Service	
Bible Camp Scholarships	1,262.50
Christian Education/VBS	5,916.70
Cong Life/Outreach	1,630.36
Miscellaneous Expense	0.00
Office Supplies	2,475.89
Worship Supplies	3,426.31
Total for Operating Exp - Worship/Service	\$14,711.76
Payroll Expenses	
Taxes	
Federal Taxes (941/944)	1,455.76
ND Unemployment Tax	0.00
Total for Taxes	\$1,455.76
Total for Payroll Expenses	\$1,455.76
Total for Expenses	\$215,978.22
Net Operating Income	-\$6,180.08

Statement of Activity

Our Saviour's Lutheran

January-December, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Other Expenses	
Reconciliation Discrepancies-1	277.04
Total for Other Expenses	\$277.04
Net Other Income	-\$277.04
Net Income	-\$6,457.12

BANK ACCOUNTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025

Checking - General Fund	\$49,028.52
Interest is 0.10% annually	

Endowment Fund – Thrivent	December 31, 2025	\$48,452.88
Money Market		
Fund created in 1998. Interest may be used at any time though the goal was to reach \$100,00.00.		
Records show balance of 15,909.08 on December of 2013		

Thrivent Savings Account	September 30, 2025	\$56,676.06
Money Market		
Account opened on April 5, 2022 with \$50,000		

Memorial Fund – MMDA	\$9,275.23
Interest is 0.10% annually	

Savings Account – MMDA	\$11,220.61
Interest is 0.10% annually	

Youth Account	\$19,657.25
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Food Pantry	\$15,296.84
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Certificate of Deposit – 7 months at 4.05% Matures March 2026	\$21,691.49
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Certificate of Deposit – 7 months at 4.05% Matures January 2026	\$25,646.16
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January 11, 2026

Dear Members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church,

Our mission at Our Saviour's can be summed up in three words - *Belong, Believe, Become!* Do they sound familiar to you? Have you seen them in our newsletter or on our website? Even more importantly, have you seen these three words in action? It is my great privilege to serve as one of the leaders of this congregation. And one of my favorite things is seeing this mission in action.

Belong: Everyone belongs in God's family and there is room for everyone among God's people. I've often heard from visitors and new members that they felt very welcome in our church. But our congregation really reaches far beyond the walls of this church. As we have struggled with our live broadcast of services throughout the year, we have heard from many, many people who join us online to worship with us each week. Our services are watched by homebound members, former members who have moved away, members at the lake, family members who want to see their grandchildren in church, and many others we don't know. We ask for support to fund a new sound system and technology integration to ensure a more reliable delivery of our worship services beyond the walls of our sanctuary.

Believe: We believe that life with Jesus matters and our beliefs turn into action. Yes, we are the hands and feet of Christ! It matters that we come together to share the burdens and the celebrations in the lives of our members and our community. We are there feeding our hungry neighbors with the weekly food pantry. This outreach has been blessed by our congregation and with many generous gifts from the community, including food drives, monetary donations, and a handful of committed volunteers staffing the food pantry every week. We are working to find ways to keep this work sustainable for the long term. We also hosted the Community Thanksgiving Meal and served over 150 people a homemade Thanksgiving dinner. Again, many hands joined together to make this fellowship happen.

Become: We are all becoming who God wants us to be. God is at work making all things new. Our Saviour's provides so many opportunities to grow. We have something for everyone from the pray-ground at the front of the sanctuary to Sunday School and Youth Group to Bible Study and Worship. All of these things form who we are and hopefully help us fulfill God's dream for each one of us. God's grace is for everyone, making all things new. Thank you to Pastor Kayla for boldly proclaiming this message again and again.

Writing about these amazing gifts in our congregation gives me goosebumps, but we are not done with the work God has called us to do. We need your continued support financially to keep the lights on and the doors open and services broadcast. We need your gifts and talents to care for one another through service. Would you be willing to help visit homebound members? Could you make a meal for the youth group? How else might your talents help us *Belong, Believe, and Become?* I hope you will consider perhaps giving to Our Saviour's in a new or different way. The possibilities are endless.

Thank you for your continued support of the ministries here at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. We could not do this without all of you!

Humbly serving together in Christ,
Britt Jacobson
Council President

*Ship your grain across the sea; after many days you may receive a return.
Invest in seven ventures, yes, in eight;
you do not know what disaster may come upon the land.
If clouds are full of water, they pour rain on the earth.
Whether a tree falls to the south or to the north,
in the place where it falls, there it will lie.
Whoever watches the wind will not plant;
whoever looks at the clouds will not reap.
As you do not know the path of the wind,
or how the body is formed in a mother's womb,
so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things.
Scatter your seeds in the morning, and at evening let your hands not be idle,
for you do not know which will succeed, whether this or that,
or whether both will do equally well.
(Ecclesiastes 11:1-6)*

In the midst of the post-Christmas organization and purge of things from our home, I was struck with a need to rearrange furniture. The basement in the parsonage has a strange layout that we have never really figured out how to best utilize. So after cleaning, sorting, and organizing the entire space, I started out on the adventure of moving around our living room furniture during nap time. Needless to say, even the longest of naps would not have given me enough time to finish such a project as I pushed the sectional from side to side of the room, trying different angles and layouts. Later that day, as the older girls descended into the basement they had lots of questions. "Where are you going to put that?" "Is there even a plug in on that wall?" "Where are you going with my toys?" "Where will we store our games?" "What are you going to do if that *doesn't* fit there?" I answered about 10 questions before I lost patience and my frustration took over. "I don't know! I just don't know, okay?! Can you just give me some time to figure it out? I have no idea what I'm doing." I am happy to report that after multiple days, a few tears, and many moments of regret, the basement layout seems to be working for us. But I'm confident I'll be feeling the need to rearrange in the next few months again.

Here's the thing about taking on new projects – they take time, energy, effort, patience, vision, and creativity. Sometimes, when we take on a new project, it takes longer than we expect. Sometimes projects don't end where we thought they would. Some projects stall out because of lack of buy in, lack of funds, or lack of abilities. And some projects are smooth sailing, only to have flaws come to the surface much later. I don't know what your experience with projects looks like, but I am confident we have all at one time or another felt the stress, frustration, and helplessness of being in the midst of project that we really thought would go smoother than we end up with.

The church is no stranger to projects. Buildings and grounds has an incredibly long wish list to tackle at any given point. Youth programs are always trying to find creative ways to make things work for families with children. Our worship space and technology is an ongoing project that never seems to hit roadblocks. Our physical space has seen turn over in ministries and needs for offices and storage.

The frustration is real. The money and time needed for such projects is real. The exhaustion of our volunteers is real. The learning curve for new technology is real. The age of our building is real. The changing shape of mainstream churches in this century is real. And the decline in participation and general giving, is, unfortunately, real.

But the beautiful thing about Our Saviour's, is that we don't let any of those things stop us from pushing ahead, trying something new, taking on the next big project, and working toward ensuring our place in this community and a foothold for future generations. It would be easy to throw in the towel, get overwhelmed, and say "I don't know, I just don't know what else to do OR how to afford this OR how to get people to help OR how to fix this problem" but instead, our congregation continues to push forward, do the hard work, raise the funds, discern where God is calling us to act next, and try something new and creative, hoping that it is where our joys and abilities meet the need of our community.

As we move into yet another year of ministry together, I hope and pray that we do not let fear or mindsets of scarcity take over, but instead we place our trust in God and act boldly, knowing that God is calling us to be the hands and feet of Christ in this time and place and God will provide when we listen to that call. We may not know where God will call us this time, or where our focus might end up, but we do know there is always more work to be done.

Pastoral Acts 2025

Baptism:

- Theo Langerud
- Raelyn Loftsgard
- Eliza Hill (presided at by Rev. Dorothy Stein)

Funerals/Burials:

- Lanny Petersen
- Deanna Hogan
- Pat Hagen
- Carol Lewis (presided at by Pr. Jessica Merchant)
- Paul Torgerson (presided at by Pr. Brooke Phelps)

2025 Youth and Family Ministry Report

Our youth ministry at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is flourishing, offering children and young adults countless opportunities to become valued members of our congregation. From singing weekly before Sunday School to actively leading worship on Youth-Led Sundays, our youngest members are encouraged to grow in their faith year-round.

Sunday School continues to meet during Worship, which allows Pk-4th grade students to interact with the Gospel lesson at a developmentally appropriate level. Currently, we have 3 sections of Sunday School that are taught by parents and volunteers. Partnering with Zion Lutheran Church, we welcomed Metigoshe Ministries this summer to lead our Vacation Bible School Program. It was a huge success and we are looking forward to inviting them back this summer. In December, 20 Sunday School students shared the Christmas story with the congregation during their yearly Christmas program. We are fortunate to have wonderful parent volunteers to help the program run smoothly each year.

Connect continues to meet from 4:00 - 5:00 on Wednesday afternoons. This has been a well attended program and helps to bridge the space between Sunday School and Confirmation.

Our confirmation class has grown this year, with an average of 6-10 kids each session. We had no confirmands this year, as no students had completed the work to be confirmed this year, but continue to work toward a large group for next fall.

Youth group has seen the largest change this year with us partnering with Zion Lutheran and Grafton Lutheran to form one large youth group for 7th-12th grade. This group has ranged from 3 kids attending to over 40 - depending on activity, location, and weather. We have done escape rooms, outdoor movies, worship, cookie decorating, sledding, pumpkin carving, and lots of fellowship with this group as we try to build the program. The joy of connecting with other churches not only builds new relationships, but allows for the joining in leaders, parent helpers, and funds, which has allowed us to do larger activities.

We continue to look for individuals who would like to lead lessons for Sunday School, Connect or to make meals for Youth Group. We also appreciate support with the various fundraising efforts of our youth group. These are small commitments that help serve our youth, as they often serve our church community in many ways.

2025 Buildings & Grounds Committee Report

The Buildings & Grounds Committee was busy again this year, overseeing many projects to maintain and improve our physical facilities. At the parsonage, an egress window was installed in the basement bedroom to meet the building code and provide a safe escape in case of a fire. At the physical church, windows and air conditioning units were replaced in all of the church offices to improve the working environment for our staff and the food pantry. The old air conditioning units will be removed and new brick will be installed where they were located, hopefully in spring of 2026. We have also installed security cameras in the front entry and south entry as a safety measure.

We have several projects coming up in 2026, including, but not limited to:

- Replacement of the sidewalk along the street by the parsonage,
- Replacement of the water heater at the parsonage,
- Replacement of the sound board and other components of the sound system,
- Replacement of fluorescent light fixtures that are wearing out, and
- Sealing the parking lot.

Just as with home ownership, the list of projects is long. We appreciate your on-going support of these important projects to keep our church and parsonage in good repair. If you have any questions or see something that needs attention, please contact any of us on the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Britt Jacobson, Eugene Bossert, Orville Kjelland, Mike Helmeke, Jordan Eidenshank, and Kelli Schatz

Music & Worship

2025

Each month we get together to plan the worship services for the seasons by choosing Hymns that go along with the Gospel Reading

The Hymns were chosen by those from the Congregation in the summer months who submitted their favorite Hymn's which with the busy schedules of the Committee helped so we didn't have to meet each month.

Backpack Blessings were done before the 2025/2026 school season started. Lenten Services were held downstairs with meals served before the service by those who signed up. It was very poorly attended.

A Blue Christmas Service was done in December and people who attended thought it was such a meaningful service.

Anyone who has any suggestions should reach out to anyone on the Worship Committee.

Pastor Kayla has made a binder for us to use when she is on maternity leave.

The Worship Committee

Pastor Kayla

Davis Thompson

Lorie Clemetson

Sheryl Kjelland

Susan Phelps



Park River Area Food Pantry Report 2025 (Outreach Committee)

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me..."~Matthew 25:35

March of 2026 will mark the 3rd anniversary of the Park River Area Food Pantry. We continue to serve people from many communities who need assistance. They come from many different backgrounds, but we work hard to welcome all who come looking for food.

In 2025, we have served 214 households comprised of 160 children, 272 adults, and 76 seniors. We have distributed 48,235 pounds of food from the small but well-stocked pantry near the front door of the church. We have served people from all over Walsh County and even a few from surrounding counties.

We have trained 36 volunteers from OSLC and the surrounding community to help with everything from stocking shelves, unloading the monthly food delivery from the Great Plains Food Bank, checking in neighbors on pantry nights, helping distribute food at mobile drops in the parking lot, and picking up expiring food from local grocery stores.

The Park River Area Food Pantry has also been greatly blessed with donations of food and money. Many organizations have hosted food drives, including the Lyric Theater, OSLC Women's Christmas Party, OSLC Youth, Polar, Surrounding Churches, First Care employees and Auxiliary, Park River High School and Grade School students, Many Individuals. We have also received over \$24,000 in monetary donations from churches, individuals, businesses, and charitable organizations. We stretched those dollars by sourcing food through a partnership with Great Plains Food Bank, picking up expiring food from Jim's SuperValu, Hahn's Bakery, Hugo's and Dollar General, and purchasing food from Jim's SuperValu at just over cost. We have also been blessed with many donated fresh farm-raised eggs and vegetables.

We have had people thank us because they did not know how they were going to eat tomorrow. We have seen recipients turn right around and help the next person in line by carrying their groceries out or giving someone a ride. We had someone who didn't have a fridge and thankfully we had shelf stable milk and dry milk. We are seeing God at work through us and among us.

Thank you for your continued support through prayers, donations, and service! Park River Area Food Pantry Committee Patty Dahlen, Jenny Holand, Susan Phelps, Linda Seim, and Britt Jacobson

2025 WELCA Annual Report

WELCA meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month beginning at 4:00 pm in the church basement. In 2025, we began our meetings by doing a Bible study on the Gospel of Matthew by Max Lucado. We have quarterly business meetings that follow our March, June, September and November regular meeting sessions. We have enjoyed incorporating a light meal and fellowship that ends each monthly meeting.

Quilters meet periodically through the year for 2-day sessions in January, February, March, April, October and November. While our quilting numbers have been down, we provided “personalized” quilts to our graduating high school seniors. Some of the other recipients of quilts and lap robes include the Pregnancy Help Center, Park River Bible Camp, Park River Good Samaritan Center, First Care Health Center, Northlands Rescue Mission and the Domestic Violence Center. Thank you to all quilters for providing this “warm love” to so many in our area.

Early in 2025, a proposed mission budget was established to donate funds totaling \$4,825 to local, state and national entities. We are happy to announce that those funds were paid out late in 2025 in the proposed amount. One of the contributing factors that helps us meet our mission budget for each year is our fall fundraiser of making and selling lefse in time for the holidays. This fundraiser has always been successful and we so appreciate all those volunteers who come forward to help us roll lefse and to all those who buy the lefse. Our WELCA women also contribute homemade lefse for our annual Syttende Mai celebration and for the annual Park River Bible Camp Lutefisk dinner.

In April, four WELCA ladies from Park River traveled to Stump Lake Village to attend the EaND Synodical Women’s Organization. We enjoyed the day of music, engaging speakers, delicious food, entertainment and various vendors.

In December, we again hosted a community Christmas party attended by approximately 50-60 women on the first Monday in December. This event is always enjoyed by all who attend.

2026 WELCA officers are: Sheryl Kjelland-President, Lorie Clemetson-Vice President, Phyllis Loftsgard-Secretary and Susan Phelps-Treasurer. I wish to acknowledge all the sub-committees of WELCA and their diligent work as well, including Altar, Brass/Altar, F&C Coordinators and Chairpersons, Funeral Coordinators, Library, Mission/Stewardship, Nominating and Outreach.

I also wish to give a special thanks to Pastor Kayla and Margaret Borgeson for their special assistance in WELCA activities.

Lorie Clemetson, 2025 WELCA President

**Our Saviour's Lutheran
Proposed Budget for 2026**

	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
Revenue			
Non-Operating Income			
Memorials		\$ 650.00	
Special Project Offerings			
Thrivent Choice Dollars		\$ 282.00	
Total Non-Operating Income		\$ 932.00	
Operating Income			
Envelope Offerings		\$ 56,882.00	
Fundraisers			
Cookbooks		\$ 100.00	
Misc			
Groundhog/Syttende Mai		\$ 3,412.00	
Hospitality		\$ 456.28	
Interest Earned		\$ 1,014.68	
Livestream Broadcast		\$ 200.00	
Miscellaneous Income		\$ 940.00	
Mission Offerings		\$ 2,174.70	
Non-Envelope Offerings		\$ 59,536.04	
Other Seasonal Offerings		\$ 3,904.00	
Simply Giving General Offerings		\$ 77,455.00	
Sunday School/VBS Offerings		\$ 2,676.04	
Text to Give		\$ 115.40	
Total Operating Income		\$ 208,866.14	
Uncategorized income			
Total Revenue	\$ 254,100.00	\$ 209,798.14	
Expenditures			
Non-Operating Expenses			
Memorials Paid			
Total Non-Operating Expenses			
Operating Exp - Church Home			
Bank Charges	\$ 800.00	\$ 667.33	\$ 800.00
Cleaning Service	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 3,275.00	\$ 3,300.00
Fundraising Expense			
Fundraiser Exp - Syttende Mai	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,011.55	\$ 800.00
Groundhog Day Expense			
Improvements	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 2,176.32	\$ 2,300.00
Insurance Expense	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,240.00	\$ 14,000.00
Maintenance - Church	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 27,395.56	\$ 30,000.00
Maintenance - Parsonage	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,544.20	\$ 15,000.00
Office Equipment (lease)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,436.45	\$ 3,000.00
Technology	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 5,585.90	\$ 30,000.00
Utilities - Church	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 15,935.42	\$ 18,000.00
Utilities - Parsonage	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,908.83	\$ 7,000.00
Total Operating Exp - Church Home	\$ 111,200.00	\$ 79,176.56	\$ 124,200.00
Operating Exp - Home Missions			
Convention	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,281.45	\$ 1,500.00
Miscellaneous		\$ 365.00	
Organist / Pianist	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 4,000.00

Parish Secretary	\$	12,000.00	\$	10,179.50	\$	11,000.00
Pastoral Continuing Education	\$	1,000.00	\$	137.03	\$	1,000.00
Pastoral Ministry + social security	\$	52,850.00	\$	53,933.98	\$	55,502.19
Pastoral Pension/Insurance	\$	27,000.00	\$	29,791.70	\$	30,000.00
Pastoral Travel	\$	2,000.00	\$	1,103.40	\$	2,000.00
Pulpit Supply	\$	4,300.00	\$	3,285.92	\$	2,000.00
Sound Board	\$	3,100.00	\$	2,500.00	\$	3,100.00
Youth Director	\$	1,000.00	\$	375.00	\$	1,000.00
Youth Director Travel	\$	800.00			\$	800.00
Total Operating Exp - Home Missions	\$	109,550.00	\$	106,552.98	\$	111,902.19
Operating Exp - Payroll O/H						
FICA Tax Expense	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,455.76	\$	1,500.00
Workers Compensation	\$	250.00	\$	250.00	\$	250.00
Total Operating Exp - Payroll O/H	\$	1,750.00	\$	1,705.76	\$	1,750.00
Operating Exp - World Missions						
Eastern North Dakota Synod	\$	6,600.00	\$	6,600.00	\$	6,600.00
Education Scholarships	\$	1,000.00	\$	75.00	\$	1,000.00
Miscellaneous Missions	\$	3,000.00	\$	3,856.16	\$	3,000.00
Park River Bible Camp	\$	3,300.00	\$	3,300.00	\$	3,300.00
Total Operating Exp - World Missions	\$	13,900.00	\$	13,831.16	\$	13,900.00
Operating Exp - Worship/Service						
Bible Camp Scholarships	\$	2,000.00	\$	1,262.50	\$	5,000.00
Christian Education/VBS	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,916.70	\$	2,700.00
Cong Life/Outreach	\$	2,700.00	\$	1,630.36	\$	2,000.00
Miscellaneous Expense	\$	2,000.00	\$	-	\$	3,000.00
Office Supplies	\$	3,000.00	\$	2,475.89	\$	2,000.00
Worship Supplies	\$	3,000.00	\$	3,426.31	\$	3,000.00
Total Operating Exp - Worship/Service	\$	17,700.00	\$	14,711.76	\$	17,700.00
Reconcilliation Discrepancies			\$	277.04		
Total Expenditures	\$	254,100.00	\$	215,978.22	\$	269,452.19
Net Operating Revenue	\$	-	\$	(6,180.08)		