

THE PULSE



Our Savior's Lutheran Church Wednesday, December 17th, 2025



Join Pastor Leland in Luther Hall at 9:45am on Sunday, December 21st for an update on the Rooted and Grounded in Love dreaming sessions.

Thank you to the nearly 70 people who participated and shared their hopes and dreams for Our Savior's.

This Sunday, coffee and treats will be sponsored and served by the Facility Team. The team was busy sharing their time and talent this year by reviewing vendor contracts, organizing work sessions, monitoring the boilers, managing and repairing the irrigation system, handling routine maintenance and making miscellaneous repairs like addressing roof leaks and condensation issues. If you have talents in the facility field that you'd be willing to share, please talk to one of the Facility Team members on Sunday - they'll be easy to recognize.



ADVENT SCHEDULE



📅 December 21, 2025

WORSHIP SERVICES

TRADITIONAL @ 8:45AM
CONTEMP. @ 10:45AM

ROOTED IN LOVE - TALK

@ 9:45AM LUTHER HALL

FELLOWSHIP TIME

@ 9:45AM
@ 11:45AM



📅 December 24, 2025

CHILDREN'S SERVICE

AT 11:00AM
A worship service specially designed for children. Families and friends are invited to praise and worship the newborn king in a style appropriate and meaningful to young children. There will be puppets, stories and song time.

FAMILY CANDLELIGHT

AT 4:30PM
Join us in the sanctuary for our family candlelight service.

TRAD. CANDLELIGHT

AT 10:00PM
Join us in the sanctuary for our traditional candlelight service.

📅 December 28, 2025

WORSHIP SERVICES

ONE BLENDED SERVICE
@ 9:45AM

FELLOWSHIP TIME

@ 10:45AM



📞 763.784.1971 🌐 www.oursaviorsonline.org 📍 9185 Lexington Ave. N. Circle Pines, MN 55014



What are you giving your family, friends, and neighbors for Christmas?

Study after study shows that 60-80% of those who don't attend church would attend worship if invited to attend worship with someone they knew. Additionally, Christmas is a time when more people are open to an invitation than other times throughout the year.

Consider giving your family, friends, and neighbors an invitation to join you at worship this Christmas Eve at 11:00am, 4:30pm, or 10:00pm. You can even share the Advent schedule above as an e-invite to make it easy.



Over the past couple of weeks, the families + students who attend Noah's Ark have collected toys, school supplies, and personal care items to be packaged and shipped to children around the world. In addition to the donated items, Noah's Ark students included handwritten notes and drawings, sharing messages of love, kindness, and encouragement.

Children's Worship 12/24 @ 11:00AM

Join us for a worship service specially designed for children. Families and friends are invited to praise and worship the NEWBORN KING in a style appropriate and meaningful to young children.

Kids interested in playing piano or other musical instrument for the prelude/postlude or interested in reading scripture during this worship service should call or text Joy Rauner, 763-234-8131 or email at joyrauner2@gmail.com by December 17th.



Nominating Committee Work has Begun

The Nominating Committee has begun its work to identify potential candidates to fill open positions for 2026. **We are looking to fill four positions on the Planning Council, three on the Nominating Committee and two on the Audit Team.** *Candidates will be voted on at the Congregational Meeting on February 22, 2026.*

If you have been looking for a way to serve Our Savior's or are interested in

a new opportunity that impacts the future of our ministry, please consider any of the open positions mentioned.

Current Nominating Committee members Laurie Dahl (linodahls@comcast.net), Tanya Dolney (tanyadolney@gmail.com), and Erika Pouliot (erikagjerde@yahoo.com) are working to finalize the slate of candidates by mid-January so are happy to answer any questions. Please prayerfully consider serving if a Nominating Committee member contacts you.

Thrivent Workshop - Estate, Wills, Trusts & More

This is for you! If you have started a new job, are married or divorced, have children or not...you will not want to miss this free opportunity! The endowment committee will be offering a free workshop sponsored by Theivent Financial to spark ideas for estate planning, wills, trusts & long term care. No obligation to purchase anything. **Join us on January 15, 2026 at 6:00 pm in Luther Hall for free pizza and conversation.** Please signup here ([link](#)) or RSVP to Paul Solheim [763-218-0397](tel:763-218-0397) or pkcsolheim@comcast.net so we can order plenty of pizza. See you in January!

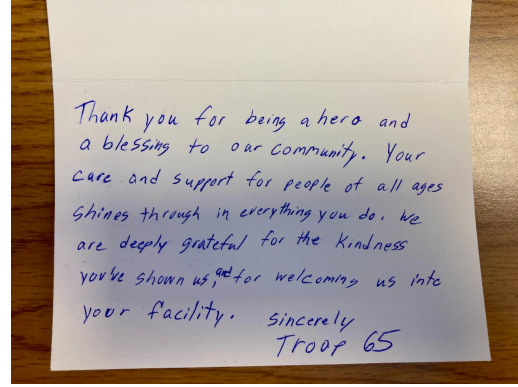
A Special Way to Support Our Church: Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

If you are 70½ or older and have a Traditional IRA, there's a powerful, tax-efficient way to support Our Savior's mission: a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). A QCD allows you to transfer funds directly from your IRA to our church, our other 501c3 organizations, tax-free.

Key Benefits for Eligible Donors:

- **Tax-Free Giving:** The amount you donate via a QCD is excluded from your taxable income, which **may help reduce** your overall tax liability.
 - **Satisfy RMDs:** If you are age 73 or older and are required to take a Required Minimum Distribution, a QCD can count toward all or part of that yearly requirement.
 - **Direct Impact:** Your gift directly supports our ministries and mission – helping us serve our community and share God's love.
- Thank you for considering this special way to support the work we do together in faith!
-

Scouts thank OSLC



Thank you to everyone who ordered poinsettia plants to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas and to honor or remember loved ones.

The poinsettia plants you purchased may be picked up after the 10:00 PM service on December 24, 2025, or during normal office hours the week of December 29.

If you have any questions, please contact Sierra in the office.



Thank you to everyone who attended our Advent Concert earlier this month.

It was an amazing evening full of music, worship, and time spent together. Your presence made it meaningful, and we're grateful you chose to spend part of your night with us.

A special thank you to the Chancel Singers Choir + Dolce Handbells, Doreen Hutchings (Interim Traditional Music Director), Cornerstone + The Little Big Band, Joy (Children's Music Director), and all the other actors & performers who shared their gifts with us - your time, talent, and dedication made the evening truly enjoyable. And a warm thank you to Ellie, our Contemporary Music Director (and playwright), for her creativity and the work she brought to life.

We also want to thank everyone who contributed to the cookie reception afterward. The treats were delicious, and it



Thank you



was wonderful to see people enjoying conversation, and fellowship in Luther Hall.

If you were unable to attend the concert you can find our livestream video [here](#).



Young Adults Gathering

Calling all young adults (ages 18-35)! We will be having a post Christmas/New Years gathering on **Saturday, January 3rd at 6 pm**. Spend some time catching up with old friends, playing games, and reminiscing in the youth room. Please RSVP to [Nick](#) by December 28th.

There is no cost to join and friends are welcome!

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Financial Summary For the Eleventh Month of our Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Nov 2025 Actuals	YTD 2025 Actuals
Total Income	\$36,515	\$508,206
Total Expenses	\$51,325	\$624,200
Budgeted Net Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$14,810)	(\$115,994)
Pass Through (Income) Expense	\$418	\$1,381
Other Income	\$0	\$34,038
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	(14,392)	(80,575)


Treasurer's Report

*Financial Statement - Year to date we have received \$508k against our budgeted revenue of \$616.7k Our YTD Expenses are \$624.2k compared to a budget of \$630.2k This puts us at a **negative \$116k** year to date. However, because of the Employee Retention Credit of \$34,038, we are now at a **negative \$81k**.*

Balance Sheet & Cash Flow - The total of cash and accounts receivable is \$184.5k. Funds allocated to dedicated accounts is \$170.1k. We have had to draw from our savings over the last 2 months to pay our bills and dedicated accounts are at risk.

The Congregation Council is actively evaluating ministry plans and will engage the congregation in decision making regarding putting forth a balanced budget for 2026.



ELEANOR
SQUAD 

Eleanor Squad Adult Forum

January 25th 9:45AM

in Luther Hall

Rev. John Matthews

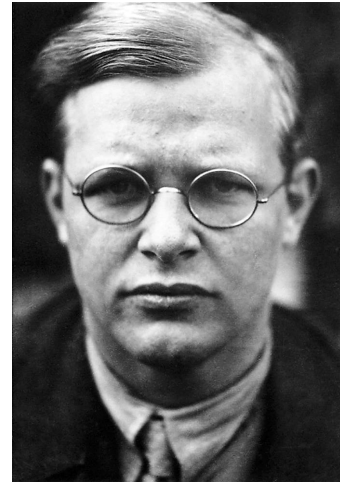
DIETRICH BONHOEFFER for TODAY

What does it mean to be Christian in today's national-global political climate?

What can we learn from the Germany of the

1930s-1940s to guide our faith responses today?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer addressed similar issues from a Lutheran faith perspective.



COW Christmas Party December 17th - TONIGHT!

Put on your favorite Christmas Sweater and join us for our last COW of 2025. Please bring a small wrapped gift (\$10 or under) for a gift exchange. We will have plenty of hot chocolate, snacks, and Christmas themed games!

- There will be prizes drawn for anyone wearing holiday attire.
- Middle School is from 6:00-7:30 pm
- High School from 7:30-9:00 pm.

High School Mission Trip: Detroit July 11-18

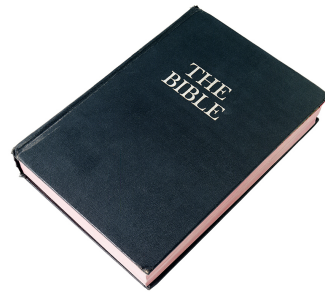
The registration for the 2026 High School Mission Trip to Detroit is now open! Follow the links for more information and to register for the trip. Spots are limited. We are also looking for a couple adults to join us on this adventure. See the last page of the informational packet for more information on adult leaders. If you are interested in being an adult leader of the mission trip contact Nick Gilbert. Deadline to Register is January 11.

[*High School Mission Trip Registration: Detroit*](#)

Information Packet

3rd Grade Bibles – Faith Stepping Stone

All third-grade students and their parents are invited to attend the 3rd Grade Bible Faith Stepping Stone January 4th - February 8th (no class Jan 18th).



Third grade students and one or both of their parents (or an adult) should attend the sessions together each week in Luther Hall at 9:45am.

Please email Danielle Draheim at ddraheim@oursaviorsonline.org to register for this class or if you have questions. If your child is older than 3rd grade and hasn't taken this class, please join us!

L.I.F.T.

LIFE IN FAITH TOGETHER

Let's gather for a **whole church**
Sunday school experience.

We're not whole
unless you join us!

Luther Hall at 9:45 am

~~Sept. 21~~

~~Oct. 5 & 19~~

~~Nov. 2~~

~~Dec. 7~~

Feb. 15

March 1

April 19

May 3 & 17

All ages are encouraged!





Young FAMILIES GROUP

Join us the 1st Wed of the month at 5:45 pm
in the Conference Room!

- ~~10/1 Parent Bible Study~~
- ~~11/5 Parent Bible Study~~
- ~~12/3 Christmas Sing-A-Long~~
- 1/7 Parent Bible Study
- 2/4 Family Service Project
- 5/6 Family Service Project



Childcare is available upon request



Register now for
Noah's Ark Preschool
&
Before/After
School Childcare

Noah's Ark Website



PRAYER

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember in your prayers:

Cori Sendle, Jack DeWalt, Rusty, Deb Rykken, Pat K, Jacque Capistrant, Garnet Ellertson, Ethan O'Brien, Darlene Hults, Dona Paulsen, Peggy Nelson, Rick Carlson, Dave Hults, Marnie Mackey, Marla Walter, Jeff Weiss, Gail Willenbring, Sharon Dornfeld, Theresa Cullen, Tori Appelhof, Richard & Lynn Rossiter, Cindy Hanson, Sandy Ellenwood, Jojo Ackerman, & Jim Rauner

Shana, daughter of Russ and Cindy Ellenwood
Denny and Sharon's friend, Larry
Annie, grand-daughter of Roy & Pat Feine
Stephanie Erickson, grand-daughter of Karen Davis
Tom, father-in-law of Beto Farias & father to Adam Ginkel
Martin Remus & family
Molly F and all family & friends of Darla

First Responders, Military & their families
San Isidro Labrador in Guatemala
Tarkanfi in Ethiopia
All those affected by conflict
Relationships

Shut-Ins unable to worship with us include:

Marnie Mackey
Marlys Gamm
Russ Eklund
Cindy Durand

Marlena McClanahan
Elaine Thielke
Garnet Ellertson
Katie Stormo

To join the prayer chain or to add your concerns, please email prayerchain@oursaviorsonline.org or call Jeanne Zaske at 651.398.2414

LIVESTREAMING

[Click here for our live streams](#)

Last weeks 8:45am worship service



Last weeks 10:45am worship service



STILL Worship 12/14/2025



Click the video above to see our most recent worship service.

Attendance Totals for December 14th, 2025

8:45 AM

In-Person = 54

Online* = 80

10:45 AM

In-Person = 82

Online* = 60

STILL Worship

In-Person = 68

Online* = 34

**The ELCA's online worship reporting guidelines multiply online views by 2 to account for individuals within a household.*



Service Times (Sundays):

8:45AM - Traditional

10:45AM - Contemporary

(Labor Day - Memorial Day)

9:45AM - Summer Worship

(Memorial Day - Labor Day)



Our Pastors:

Lead - Leland Armbright

CYF - Susie Modrow



[Maintenance Request](#)[Staff Assistance
Request](#)[Staff Directory](#)

serve at worship



Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in receiving emails regarding opportunities to serve at worship please click the button below and complete the form it brings you to. The physical sign up sheets can still be found in the Narthex.

For questions specific to volunteering contact:

office@oursaviorsonline.org

[Email Form Sign-Up](#)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
www.oursaviorsonline.org

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Connect with us, and Grow with us.



Our Savior's Lutheran Church | 9185 Lexington Ave. N. | Circle Pines, MN 55014 US

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