

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
PO Box 277 + 305 Sixth St
Cleveland, MN 56017





Contact Us!

Pastor Liz Rossing Home (507) 931-5450
pastor.oursaviorslutheran@gmail.com

Office Assistant, Emily Bruflat (507) 931-1564
oursaviorslutheran1@gmail.com

Treasurer, Brian Block (507) 560-0050
lecenterhh@gmail.com

Custodian, Gary Hasse (507) 931-1415

OSLC Church Council

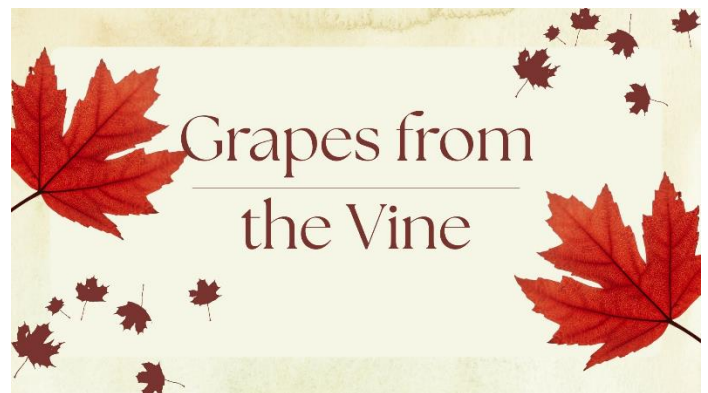
Tom Christensen, President (507) 340-9404
sellitfaster@hotmail.com

Jim Grabow, Vice President (507) 720-7910
jimgrabow0@gmail.com

Ginny Grabow, Secretary (507) 304-0667
vgrabow@gmail.com

Terri Heimerman (507) 351-4973
dtheimerman@gmail.com

Betty Consoer (507) 317-7975
bettyconsoer@gmail.com



From the Pastor

"Praise, praise! You are my rock. The, the waves are high. You hold me when the waves are strong." – Praise, Praise! by Herbert Brokering

Autumn is here and with it leaves and temperatures are falling, crops are coming in, and days are getting shorter. It's just right for brisk morning walks and curling up with a mug of tea in the evening. But that isn't the case in all regions of our world. So, this month, I'd like to lift up an outreach ministry of our national church body, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. LDR collaborates with other disaster response organizations and religious entities in the United States and abroad. This enables the greatest stewardship of resources and maximum impact of response. Lutheran Disaster Response strives to help the church continue to be church in the midst of disaster — following Christ's call to bring hope and healing to our neighbor in need. Thanks to Lutheran's quick compassion, hundreds of **families affected by the recent flooding in Texas had emergency supplies in their hands within 12 hours.**

If you would like to financially support Lutheran Disaster Response or other ministries of the ELCA you can go online <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response> or by mail Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and make checks payable to Lutheran Disaster Response (if designated to a specific disaster, please indicate in the memo line). Or you can bring a designated offering to church and we'll make sure it gets to the right place.

Peace be yours,
 Pr. Liz

OCTOBER 2025

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

5

Worship 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship 10:00 a.m.
Council 10:00 a.m.
Season of Creation
Pet Blessing 1:00 p.m.

12

Worship 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship 10:00 a.m.
Season of Creation.

19

Worship 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship 10:00 a.m.
Season of Creation

26

Worship 9:00 a.m.
Reformation Sunday
Fellowship 10:00 a.m.

1

8

God Squad 6:00 p.m.
with Family Worship

15

Make & Pray
6:00-8:00 p.m.

22

God Squad 6:00 p.m.

29

7

14

21

28

6

13

20

27

3

10

17

24

31

God Squad 6:00 p.m.
Trunk or Treat!

2

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

9

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

16

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

23

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

30

Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

4

11

18

25

Our Savior's Lutheran Church—Council Minutes

September 21, 2025

Council members present: Pastor Liz, Tom Christensen, Terri Heimerman, Betty Consoer, Ginny Grabow, Jim Grabow. Betty provided a devotional.

Financial report: Brian Block presented the July financials:

The general fund received gifts of \$10,187.00, versus last year of \$8,980.00 giving us a difference of 1,207.00. The checkbook balance is \$9,748.49. Year to date, the General Fund received gifts of \$82,303.26 versus last year of \$80,365.45, giving us a difference of \$1,937.81. The financial report was approved on a motion by Ginny seconded by Tom/approved.

A decision on Pastor's health insurance plan needs to be made by October 14. Pastor Liz will study the plans available to determine which plan will meet her needs. We will vote at our meeting on October 5.

The minutes of the August meeting was approved via email; was published in the September newsletter.

Old Business:

- **Carpet Cleaning of hallways;** fellowship hall was done in August (On the Spot Cleaners).
- **Parsonage roof:** On hold until spring Tom filed a complaint concerning the bankruptcy of Boelter and the loss of our deposit with Dept of Commerce; Dept of Labor; Industry. He contacted Emily Carson at the synod office and the bishop, who forwarded it to synod legal counsel. A report was filed with city. Filed a complaint to Pioneer Bank concerning how they handled this matter.
- **Discussion of trees and the rain garden maintenance.** The large maple tree south of the parsonage needs to be dropped by a professional. Perhaps congregational members could help remove branches. The rain garden is not functioning as a rain garden and has become an eyesore because it is not being maintained. A decision on this will be discussed in the future. Input from members appreciated.
- **Lawnmower** was donated by Kay Wendlschafer-only needs repair on the self-propelled feature. Terri Heimerman will see if her husband, Dean may be able to check it out and fix the problem. The two older sons of Kevin; Lacey Johnson have been mowing church property since August and are paid \$15 each per mowing.
- **Altar painting**-will be done over the winter by Sue Eppmeyer. Materials provided by Joanie Eppmeyer.

New Business:

- Events Calendar-some adjustments were made.
- Fall Stewardship-focus on all aspects of stewardship, not just offerings.
- Discussion of several events that happened lately
 - Initial meeting of God squad with Ice cream social, children were signed up with parent's consent.
 - VBS-numbers of participants was down, perhaps due to other activities for kids offered at the same time. We may look at earlier dates next year.
 - God's Work Our Hands—28 students were served Lunch for a Buck

Jim moved we adjourn seconded by Betty. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting date October 5, 2025, after worship.

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Ginny Grabow, council secretary

Members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church;

As many of you are aware the contractor, Boelter Siding and Window, hired to reroof the parsonage has been foreclosed on by their bank and subsequently filed for bankruptcy. This event occurred a few short weeks after they were awarded the project, and were paid the required 50% down.

In an effort maintain transparency and to keep everyone informed I would like to make you aware of the entire process, and update you on where we are currently.

During the June 8th '25 OSLC council meeting it was decided to proceed with having the parsonage house reroofed and gutter guards added to the eaves. Soon after I began the process of contacting area contractors to look at project and submit estimates. 3 of the 4 contractors contacted submitted estimates, estimates were reviewed and compared, then I contacted council members and church Treasurer indicating the potential cost of the project. It was determined at that time, per congregation bylaws, a congregational meeting would need to be held to review and vote on the project, per bylaws the announcement of congregational meeting was posted.

Congregational meeting occurred on July 28th '25, members present were given information of bid estimates, potential additional expense should sub-roof need replacement, and asked to approve up to \$30,000.00 for the project. Also, members present were made aware of intention to award project to Boelter as they were the contractor that roofed church 2 years ago and that project went very well. Motion and second received, members present voting proceeded that, and congregational approval was received.

After approval I contacted the sales representative of Boelter to meet, that meeting occurred on Aug. 10th '25, reviewed estimate to ensure no changes were expected, and informed them they would be awarded project. Contract was signed by both parties they were presented with a check for 50% of project estimate, \$9605.00.

On Aug. 29th '25 I was contacted by an acquaintance who asked if I had heard that Boelter had been foreclosed on and all equipment etc. seized by the bank, I immediately attempted to contact sales person who did not respond. On Aug. 30th '25 I drove to Boelter business site, all vehicles, equipment including office equipment were gone and the site appeared vacant. On Sept. 2nd I contacted church treasurer to see if payment could be stopped on deposit check, it was determined that the check had already been deposited into Boelter's account. Later that week local news media reported Boelter closing its doors.

Actions taken thus far in an attempt to receive our deposit monies back;

Boelter's bank has been contacted in person twice, copies of contract and deposited funds presented to them, and a claim filed with bank to get deposit money back. Bank has not responded to date.

A claim has been filed with the MN Dept. of Labor and Industry.

A criminal complaint has been with local law enforcement.

MN Dept. of Commerce contacted to file a claim in the "Contractor Recovery" department, this process includes language indicating efforts made in the small claims court system. The synod bishop has been contacted to request assistance from synod legal department in this area.

Lastly our insurer has been contacted to see if the church has any type of coverage in this area, no word on that yet.

For the time being council has decided to wait until spring of '26 to revisit this project. Funds received from members thus far will be held for this project, council greatly appreciated all whom have contributed.

While this entire event has caused considerable heartache and frustration to our congregation, as well as many others in the area communities, I pray we will eventually see some if not all our funds returned. I will Trust in the Lord.

Respectfully,

Tom Christensen, OSLC Council President

Called to Let Our Light Shine!

OSLC News and Announcements

God Squad

This year we're updating the schedule to follow our VBS format. At our twice monthly meeting, we'll share a story from the Bible, make music with Lacey Johnson, and rotate between games and crafts. The kids will end the evening with a snack. Once a month, we'll have Family Worship (including Holy Communion).

October

8 – Family Worship & Adam and Eve

22 – Isaac's Blessing

November

5 – Family Worship & Queen Esther

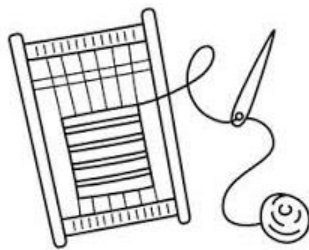
19 – Naomi and Ruth

Trunk-or-Treat

Sign up to help or donate treats and food for the 8th Annual Trunk-or-Treat on Halloween night from 5-7 pm. We need people to host a trunk, and donations for candy, hot dogs, buns, chips and drinks. The sign up sheet is located on the table in the narthex.

October Make and Pray

Make and Pray for October will be Wednesday 10/15 from 6-8pm. Pr. Liz will share some of her experience from sabbatical and volunteering with weaving in the Craft Cave at Holden Village. Then we'll make our own weaving project. Cost is \$5 per person. Sign-up at the welcome table or contact Pr. Liz.



Reformation Sunday!

This year, Reformation is October 26. It's one of the only days in the church year where the colors in the church are red to mark the festive nature of the service. You are invited to wear red in celebration!



The Biblical theme for this year is Isaiah 32:14-18. The prophet Isaiah pictured the desolated Creation without peace because of the lack of justice and the broken relationship between God and humankind. This description of devastated cities and wastelands eloquently stresses the fact that human destructive behaviors have a negative impact on the Earth.

Our hope: Creation will find peace when justice is restored. There is still hope and the expectation for a peaceful Earth. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but to act, pray, change, and reconcile with Creation and the Creator in unity, repentance, and solidarity.

There will be a special service of Blessing the Pets on Sunday, October 5th at 1:00pm.

Bible Study Schedule

Adult Bible Study continues on Thursday mornings at 10:30 am. Come share faith, fellowship, and treats!

Can YOU Help Us?

We have a number of people who depend on our online streaming for their Sunday worship experience. We have three trained operators, and we could use a few more so we can offer our services each Sunday.

If you would be willing to learn to serve in this way, please call or text Ginny Grabow at 507-304-0667 or email vgrabow@gmail.com.

Birthdays Anniversaries

2nd Jeff Block, Deb Hunt
3rd David Wolf
4th Mary Koppelman, Samantha Olsen
7th Jody Block
8th Benjamin Olsen, Tom Christensen
10th Ariel Murphy
11th Joanna Starner, Derrick Stocker
13th Morgan VanEck
16th Jan Fischer, Ginger McCabe, Rhett Ponwith
20th Layla Ponwith, Jordie Seely, Steve Ziebarth
21st Ian Krenik
22nd Greg Davis
23rd Jeff Thom
25th Leann Sexe, Lori Zimmerman
26th Iliana Hollerich
27th George Bateman
28th Kevin Sexe, Benjamin Zimmerman
30th Bill Miller

Please contact oursaviorslutheran1@gmail.com to request changes or prayers.

2nd Gaylord & Rita Martin
14th Peter & Lisa Koppelman
17th Leo & Sandra Koppelman
20th Brian & Susan Eppmeyer

Prayer Concerns

Members: Charlotte Jacoby+, George Bauer+, Kevin Mueller+, Karen Johnson+, Bradley Riba+, Michaela Biehn+, Jean Seely+, Jayne Martin+, Dianne Hansen+, Doug Starkweather+ Ginny Grabow+

Non-Members: Cindy Wieland+, Holly Kallestad+, Deb Vieth+

Those in the military service

Active Military: Brendon Brown, Alex Garrison, Chris Glassel, Tyler Seitz, and Tyler Piotter.

We also pray for all veterans who have served in our nation's Armed Forces.

Preparing for Worship

10/5: (Feast of St. Francis) Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4;
Psalm 37:1-9; Luke 12:22-34

10/12: (water) 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 66:1-12;
John 4:1-15

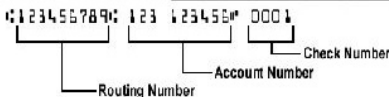
10/19: (Peace with Creation) Isaiah 32:14-18;
Psalm 121; Matt 5:1-12

10/26: (Reformation) Jeremiah 31:31-34;
Psalm 46; John 8:31-36

Want to make your weekly giving easy?
Fill out the form below and drop it in the offering plate to be signed up for automatic giving!
It's that easy to sign up!

VANCO/SIMPLY GIVING AUTHORIZATION FORM

Name of the organization: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		ENVELOPE/DONOR #		DATE	
Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____ Type of authorization: <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation					
Last Name			First Name		
Address					
City				State	Zip
Email Address					
DATE OF FIRST DONATION: ____/____/____		FREQUENCY OF DONATION: <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly – Mondays <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th		FUNDS: <input type="checkbox"/> General/Operating Funds <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Mission of the Month <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
				AMOUNTS: \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____	
				TOTAL CONTRIBUTION: \$ _____	
CHECKING / SAVINGS	Please debit my donation from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check below)			Routing Number: _____ Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3 Account Number: _____ 	
	I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.				
Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____					

If using a checking account, please attach a voided check at the bottom of this page.