

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

Our Saviors Lutheran Church

January 2026





OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit as all may know God's love.

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Grapes from the Vine
January 2026



From the Pastor

Beloved,

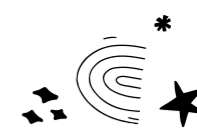
Grace to you and peace and a Happy New Year! As people of faith, we enter into each New Year with memory and hope. We remember what has been and look forward to what may be in the sure and certain knowledge that God has been, continues to be, and will be with us in all that we say and do.

Many things happened at OSL in the past year, these are some of the highlights - I went on sabbatical during June and July, traveling all over the country to visit family and volunteer at the Lutheran retreat center Holden Village; lead a monthly Make & Pray combining my love of arts and crafts with faith-based devotions. In August we hosted Vacation Bible School and planned a VBS format for God Squad including Family Worship once a month. We hosted the 7th Annual Cleveland Trunk-or-Treat. Our congregation served two community meals this year - Lunch for a Buck at MSU and Together at the Table in Cleveland. The church council worked hard with strategic planning and building maintenance as well as how to best steward our time, resources, and talents for doing God's work in our congregation, community, and the wider world. 2025 was a busy year!

Looking forward to 2026, there are more exciting things to anticipate! First is the Annual Meeting at the end of this month where we will review ministry and business from 2025 and plan for this year. Please, join us to give your input! Business to discuss includes a budget, updates on the parsonage roof, community involvement, and discussion about the future of our church!

Peace be yours,
Pr. Liz

January 2026



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

| | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|-------------------------|----------------------------|----|----|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 Worship 9:00 am Fellowship 10:00 am | 5 | 6 | 7 God Squad 6:00 pm | 8 Bible Study 10:30 am | 9 | 10 |
| 11 Worship 9:00 am Fellowship 10:00 am | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Bible Study 10:30 am | 16 | 17 |
| 18 Worship 9:00 am Fellowship 10:00 am | 19 | 20 | 21 God Squad 6:00 pm | 22 Bible Study 10:30 am | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Worship 9:00 am Fellowship 10:00am Annual Meeting | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Bible Study 10:30 am | 30 | 31 |

Our Savior's Lutheran Church—Council Minutes

December 14, 2025

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

Financial report: Brian Block presented the November financials:

The general fund received gifts of \$11,685. versus last year of \$8,108. giving us a difference of 3,577. The checkbook balance is \$12,093.36. Year to date, the General Fund received gifts of \$117,933.43 versus last year of \$110,120.45 giving us a difference of \$7,813.00. The financial report was approved on a motion by Ginny, second by Tom. Passed.

2026 Budget preview with Brian. Interest money from the CDs will be deposited in the general fund. Our contributions to Lutheran Social Services and benevolence should be up for discussion at the annual meeting. The MN Pd Leave Act mandated by the state needs to be addressed. Brian will establish an account and Tom moved that the cost will be split 50-50% by the employee and the church. Second by Jim. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- Nothing to report on the parsonage roof or painting of the altar.
- The landline to the parsonage will be discontinued due to the fact that it is seldom used. Contact Pastor Liz using either the office number or her cell phone.
- The large maple tree behind the parsonage will be taken down this coming spring.

New Business:

- New office assistant (Samantha Fraley) began working in the office last week. She is an Army veteran, now finishing a college degree. She and her family live in Madison Lake.
- Help is needed when decorating the church for different seasons. Betty Consoer has been doing the decoration for season changes and Christmas. Especially before Christmas, she would need others to help her. If you would like to help with this task of decorating our church home, please contact Betty.

Discussed recruitment of new council members and the annual meeting. Jim & Ginny's terms expire with the coming annual meeting.

- Goals for our church family for 2026 and beyond need to be discussed and acted on so that we are truly living out our mission statement: **We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit so all may know God's love.**
- The cemetery board has been advised that some trees will need to be removed to accommodate power lines.
- Pastor Liz reported on visitations, the community meal, and a funeral at Our Savior's in November..

Jim moved we adjourn seconded by Betty. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting date: January 11 2026, after worship. Pastor Liz will offer devotions.

- **Annual meeting, 1/ 25/26.**

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Ginny Grabow, council secretary

Upcoming Events:

January 20—Lunch for a Buck—Crossroads Campus Ministry

Called to Let Our Light Shine!

OSLC News and Announcements

God Squad

The kids are loving the VBS format with a Bible story, music time, games and crafts, and a snack! We'll continue to have Family Worship (including Holy Communion) on the first Wednesday of the month.

- January 7 – Family Worship & The Wise men/Epiphany
- January 21 – Service Project

Adult Bible Fellowship

Our adult Bible Study and Fellowship meets at 10:30 am on Thursdays. Join Pr. Liz for a time of casual discussion about the readings for the following Sunday and time of intercessory prayer. There will be no bible study on New Year's Day.

Lunch for a Buck

We are scheduled to serve lunch on Tuesday the 20th at Crossroads Campus Ministry at MSU. Volunteers are needed to make a soup that serves 8-10 people placed in a crockpot. 4 soups are needed. Other small items will be asked for also. We need three volunteers to serve on that Tuesday 9:30 am to 1pm. Look for sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table.

Worship Help

Sign up to help on Sundays: Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Video Operator, or Fellowship Host! Go [online](#) for Video Operator or check the paper copy of the sign-up sheet on the welcome table.

Annual Meeting notice

Jan 26th after worship - various reports are due by Jan 12th. We will serve donuts and rolls during the meeting!

WINTER WEATHER POLICY

We follow Cleveland School District for all weather-related closings. If our school is closed or dismissed early due to weather, ALL church related activities, particularly God Squad activities on Wednesdays are cancelled. Our Sunday worship and other scheduled meetings will be announced. Sunday worship will be announced through our local St. Peter radio station, KRBI – FM 105.5, and KEYC News.

Start the year strong by giving generously!



Begin your year with a gift that will empower OSLC's efforts to make a life-changing difference for those we serve. Simply scan the QR code to make your gift.

You can support our mission and ministry together in a variety of ways such as volunteering to assist in Sunday morning worship, helping with God Squad, or signing up to provide treats at Coffee Hour. Your financial contributions can be made by giving on Sunday mornings, or with Simply Giving (automatic withdrawals) by requesting a form from the church office. Give online with Vanco. A link can be found on the church website under the "Donate" tab or scanning the QR code with your smartphone.

Thank You from Pr. Liz

Thank you to everyone who sent me cards and gifts for Christmas. It helped make the season a little brighter for me and my family!



4th Kevin Johnson, Harrison Sexe
8th Emma Hahn
9th Sierra McCabe
13th Ryan Ponwith
15th Lael Starkweather
16th Rhonda Johnson
17th Colin Krenik
18th Sullivan Sexe
19th Dick Newbrough
20th Dennis Hiller
21st Harper Meyer
25th Tyler Piotter
26th Kade Miller
28th Brandon Seitz

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

6th Bill & Nancy Hensel
8th Adam & Sue Wendelschafer

Prayer Concerns

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

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

1/4/26: Epiphany (Courageous Defiance):
Exodus 1:8—2:10; Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1—15

1/11 Baptism of Our Lord
Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Matthew 3:13-17

1/18 Second Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; John 1:29-42

1/25 Third Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; Matthew 4:12-23

