



October 2025

The Messenger

Walking Together . . .

What is a synod? Most of us experience synod simply as part of the larger body of the ELCA. There are 65 regional synods in the United States. The smallest synod has 30 congregations and the largest more than 300. Our synod is the Northeastern Minnesota Synod, one of six synods in Minnesota. Our synod is made up of around 130 congregations. Our synod coverage includes the counties of Aitkin, Carlton, Cass, Cook, Crow Wing, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Lake, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, and St. Louis as well as six federally recognized native lands/reservations.



Our synod is further split up among five conferences. Our Savior's is a member of the Kettle River Conference.

What does synod mean? Well, literally, synod means "Walking Together." This means that the synod helps our congregations and all its members to walk together as church in the world. This is especially important in a world that seems bent on division in nearly every way.

Our synod operates on four principles: • Welcome • Connect • Reform • Support

These principles came from an extensive strategic planning session that took place after Amy Odgren was elected our synod bishop. In addition to our bishop, we have a synod staff. Each staff member has a specialty ministry area yet all staff focus on the four principles to help our pastors, deacons, and congregations thrive.



On October 11, 2025 the NEMN Synod will be hosting its annual Walking Together Event. This will take place at Zion Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, MN. The theme for this year's event is Sparking Hope. There will be fellowship, worship, lunch and several workshops filled with hands-on ideas and tools. I will be leading one of the workshops this year (Circle Keeping for Hope). I want to personally invite you to come to the event.

The cost is based on numbers. If 1-5 people attend, it is \$30/person. 6-10 people would be

\$25/person. More than that would be \$20/person. If you are interested in attending this year, please stop in the office or fill out this form by following the link -->

Our Savior's to travel, worship, fellowship, and members from our synod. I sure hope you will



It would be a lot of fun for a large group from learn together with many other congregational join me there.

Walking with one another is not always easy. Walking with one another requires submitting your will to the will of God. But when we walk together, we spark hope.

Pastor Luke

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)



Generous Together

We have experienced The Generosity Together Project by special meetings we held last spring, during our July picnic and worship on September 21. We have explored God's Story at work in our lives and community, fostering a spirit of giving. We invite you to join our remaining interactive Sundays, where we will learn and discover the joy of generosity together.

Join us October 19, 2025, for "Generous Together" Sunday. This is when we will praise God for his generosity to us and bless our pledge of generous giving for 2026. The Generosity and Stewardship Team will host a light brunch in the fellowship hall after service to celebrate this day. Your participation on this Generous Together Sunday will make a huge difference in the life of your church and community.

Let's Be Generous Together!



GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS
was on SEPTEMBER 14, 2025!



THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who volunteered their time and talent to work on outdoor projects or indoors at Zion assembling kits. We had 75 people participate from 3 churches, Our Savior's, Zion, and Bethesda. Thank you to all who donated baby items, school supplies, personal care items, etc. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of the donations from Our Savior's.

Thank you to the members who requested then donated a Thrivent Action Gift Card to help cover expenses. You have all made a big difference in someone's life.

We completed:

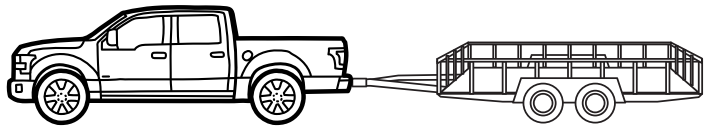
7 outdoor projects



hauled away



2



two trailer and pickup trucks full of yard waste

We put together a total of:

72 ditty bags for seafarers



157

school backpacks



103

personal care kits



68

baby care kits



We have one more indoor project that will be completed soon.

You have all helped to make this event a success.

Jan Larson

OCTOBER 2025

The Messenger

CHILI COOK-OFF & Silent Auction

Sunday, October 5, 2025
4:30 pm

OSLC Fellowship Hall

JUST \$5
TO TASTE & VOTE
YOUR FAVORITE



Our Savior's Lutheran Church 3rd Annual

Trunk or Treat

615 12th St., Cloquet
Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025
2:00 - 3:30pm
in the OSLC parking lot



Show off
your Halloween
costumes



Make a S'more
at the campfire



Collect LOTS of Candy!



All are Welcome!!

To Know Christ and to Have Others Know Him

Haiti Update



Recently MMM has been able to ship 10 boxes of supplies to Dr. Manno's clinic. The need continues to be great and the political and safety situation there has not improved. Despite the challenges, Dr. Manno's team is planning to provide their annual diabetic training gathering. The MMM team shipped glucometers and glucose strips to support their needs.

One of our MMM leaders, Marilyn Cluka, a retired public health nurse, has decided to make the journey to support this diabetic Super Group which is now scheduled to be held in October. Please pray for her safety during this challenging trip! Please also pray that the needed supplies get through to Dr. Manno's team successfully.

Many thanks to those who have saved and donated jam jars and lids. We now have an ample supply of jars and jam making is in progress. Watch for the fall jam sales soon.



Please prayerfully consider helping financially as MMM continues to support Dr. Manno's work in Haiti. If able to help, donations can be given through OSLC by putting Haiti Mission in the memo line of your check or donation, or give directly to Ministry in Medical Missions by contacting Missions Chair, Marilyn Cluka at mcnur@aol.com or 218 390 7264.



Thanks for your prayers and support,
Mary Krohn for Ministry in Medical Mission

Ministry in Medical Missions

17th
Annual

SUICIDE AWARENESS MEMORIAL WALK

DATE: Saturday, October 11, 2025

TIME: 9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

EVENT LOCATION: Carlton High School, Carlton, MN



Walk with us . . .

- In support of mental health/well-being
- In support of suicide prevention
- In memory of a loved one
- In support of friends, family, community



If you have questions, please call 218-879-4511 and ask for Meghann Levitt

BONFIRE AT OSLC

ALL ARE WELCOME!
SUNDAY, OCT. 12TH AT 3:00PM



COZY AFTERNOON OF FELLOWSHIP



DRINKING HOT COCOA OR CIDER
AROUND THE FIRE



BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR



STORY TELLING OF SHINGEBISS AND THE NORTH WIND
FROM JIM BOYD



MUSIC SHARED AROUND THE FIRE



JOIN US
OSLC
MIDDLE
SCHOOL
YOUTH
GROUP

C'mon over Wednesdays
from 3:30-5:00

at Our Savior's Lutheran Church
in the Fellowship Hall. (door #3)

What R we gonna do?

1. hang out in the Youth Room
2. Eat!!
3. learn how the Bible relates to us today.
4. build our Faith
5. play some games or do service projects

Present: Brad Browers (Worship, Arts and Music), Bob DeCaigny (Secretary), Jill Elwood (Youth), Connor Hecht (President), Linda Holmstrand (Fellowship), Rich Krikava (Church in Society), Pastor Luke, Shannon Matzdorf (Welcome), Kathy Rye (Past President and Palanca Deacons), Marty Rye (Properties), Sue Stahl (Stewardship), Deb Templeton (Treasurer)

Unable to attend: Roxanne Frederick (Christian Education), Rob Macaulay (Vice President), WELCA, NHCP

1. Welcome and Sharing of Highs and Lows: Members shared as they desired.

2. Devotion and Opening Prayer: Welcome Team – Centered on seek Me and you will find Me.

3. Approval of August 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes: Bob made a motion and Sue seconded to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of the appointment of Deb Templeton as Treasurer. The CAT has voted in favor to approve Deb as Treasurer. Deb reviewed her qualifications for the Treasurer role. Sue made a motion and Rich seconded to appoint Deb as the Treasurer. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report/ Financials

- Due to the Treasurer's position vacancy, the following information was provided by our bookkeeper, Bruce Larson: August income was \$19,501 compared to our budget of \$18,807 (\$694 above plan) and expenses were \$17,386 compared to our budget of \$19,026 (\$1,641 below plan) for a net gain of \$2,335. YTD we are \$11,384 ahead of plan.

6. Pastor's Report

- Since our last meeting, we wrapped up our summer Bible Study gatherings at Perkins and are back to meeting every Wednesday morning at 10 a.m.
- I led the monthly worship service at Interfaith Care Center. I am still looking for someone to assist me with music at these services, which take place at 11 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month.
- I teamed up with Chaplain Doug Paulson at UMD to help lead a memorial service for Aubie Shaw, a beloved researcher and professor who passed away this summer.
- Rally Sunday was a lot of fun. I got a couple new students signed up for Confirmation class and there is interest in starting something with post-confirmation high school students. One of our HS seniors is trying to recruit others. I told him I would assist with the formation of the group and attend their gatherings.
- Generous Together is up and running again. I met with the Generosity Team to plan upcoming worship services and events.
- I was invited to tour the 148th Fighter Wing in Duluth. We watched fighter jets launch and toured a jet in the hanger. We also learned more about the facility and its missions as well as its chaplaincy program. Feel free to contact me if you'd like to hear more about it.
- Our book discussion group, *The Tears of Things*, has met twice thus far. There is additional interest among folks that cannot attend at this time. I will extend a second discussion group invitation after the first winds up.
- I did not have any scheduled visits this month nor any funerals outside of the memorial service at UMD. I am looking forward to the Stewardship Campaign Kickoff Sunday 9-21.

7. Team Leader Reports

- Christian Education: Rally Sunday kicked off our year. Thanks to all who helped! Sunday School has begun and confirmation will begin 10-1. We were part of God's Work, Our Hands by making fall crafts for our shut-ins. We would love to have more children participate and can also use more help leading Sunday School.
- Church Properties: Nothing specific to report.
- Palanca Deacons: Looking for an additional team member.
- Welcome: A bonfire gathering will be held 10-12 at 3 p.m., with a connection to Indigenous People's Day. The 3rd annual Trunk or Treat for 10-25 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. is being planned.
- Fellowship: Met on 9-9 to review plans to serve and clean up for Silly Sock Sunday potluck on 9-28. The Chili Cook Off 10-5 needs volunteers for chili cooks and helpers to assist in various ways. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex. Ministry teams are asked to donate a basket for the silent auction. Need more team members.
- NHCP: No report
- Stewardship Team: The Generosity Team met to discuss the Fall Stewardship Program. A letter and pledge card have been mailed. Generous Together Sunday will be October 19. A light brunch will follow. The rummage sale held 8-22 and 8-23 net just over \$2,000 which has been designated for the roof replacement fund.
- Worship, Arts & Music: Fall rehearsals have begun. Bells will resume in October.

7. Team Leader Reports - continued

- Youth Ministry: The bouncy house was a big success on Rally Sunday. Working on rules which will be posted during use. Developing a direction for middle school youth group.
- WELCA: No report
- Church in Society: A meeting is planned for 9-21. Studying the book, "*The Tears of Things*."

8. Old Business

- Community of Hope: Dinners are on the second Sunday of the month, next one 10-12.
- Rental Space: Sarah Klyve is developing marketing and advertising for the space.
- Generous Together: One more activity planned after Sunday 09-21.
- NHCP Steering Committee: A meeting was held 8-22 with an architect was present to discuss options for plans needed for a facility which offers a Christian education piece imbedded within a day care.
- Establishing Core Values for Mission: The video will be edited from the All Teams Meeting 5-18. The congregation will be involved with the process when that step is complete.
- Rally Sunday: 9-7 – Discussed in the Youth Team report.
- Silly Sock Sunday: The planning is complete.
- Key Accounting: The plan will be discussed at the January 2026 annual meeting.
- Chili Cook-Off and Silent Auction 10-5: Discussed in the Fellowship Team report.
- Royal Rangers (Good Hope rental space): They have found alternative space.

9. New Business

- Constitution and Bylaws review: Rich Krikava has been working on revising the Constitution and Bylaws to bring the Constitution up to date using the required and optional changes from the 2022 and 2025 ELCA church wide assembly and to amend the documents so they are in alignment with current practices. Connor reviewed those changes plus the revisions recommended by the work group which met 9-14-25 to give the documents an additional review. Shannon made a motion and Kathy seconded to move forward with the Constitution and Bylaws as amended by the Parish Planning Council for Congregational and Synod approval. The motion carried unanimously.
- Lutefisk Dinner 11-1-25: Tickets are being developed, food arrangements are being made with Marketplace Catering and advertising is in process.
- Fireside Room furniture and carpet: Mission Endowment is proposing a matching fund arrangement up to about \$7,000 – \$8,000. A sub-committee will be developed to bring back recommendations for furniture, carpet and a budget estimate. It was suggested carpet squares be used like those in the Fellowship Hall for interchangeability. Sue made a motion and Connor seconded to authorize a sub-committee be formed to make recommendations for Fireside Room furniture and carpet replacement with budget cost to the Parish Planning Council by November 18, 2025 for approval. The motion passed unanimously.
- Pastor Luke's continuing education proposal: The proposal for the second unit of the CPE course through St. Mary's in Duluth was presented by Pastor Luke. Shannon made a motion and Sue seconded to approve the request for continuing education as Pastor Luke proposed and with the funding sources recommended by the CAT. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Next Meeting October 21, 2025, 6:30 p.m.: Devotion and opening prayer--Worship, Arts and Music Team**11. Closing Prayer:** The Lord's Prayer**12. Adjournment:** Jill made a motion, Deb seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m., the motion carried unanimously.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Oct 1

- Curt Skowlund

Oct 2

- Carol Hedquist
- Sherri Waller

Oct 5

- Tim Krohn

Oct 6

- Peyton Koskela
- David Manisto

Oct 8

- Andy Berg

Oct 9

- Allyson Rahkola

Oct 10

- Daniel Brula

- Dean Haglin

- Tucker James

- Smedshammer

- Quinley Stephens

Oct 11

- DeeAnne Hoffman

- Amanda Paul

- Jack Sorenson

Oct 13

- Susan Manisto

- Jeannine Nordin

- Roy Ober

Oct 14

- Ashley Seguin

Oct 15

- Paxtyn Stephens

Oct 16

- Adam Blesener

- Jan Salo Korby

Oct 18

- Dave Beal

Oct 19

- Teresa Gilchrist

Oct 20

- Karen Johnson

Oct 21

- Dawson Hoffman

- Isabel Nelson

Oct 24

- Marilyn Gilchrist

- Whitney Gladen

Oct 25

- Mikaela Krikava

- Juli Lattner

Oct 26

- Carrie Rye

- Gail Wangen

Oct 28

- Barbara Ekstrom

Oct 29

- Janice Engstrom

- Bryn Swanson

If you love the look of
our colorful bulletin boards, THANK:
Shannon Matedorf,
Jill Elwood and
Sue Stahl!



Fall Luteřisk, Salmon and Meatball Dinner

Saturday, November 1, 2025 | 3 - 6pm

\$20/adult10 and under FREE with PAID adult***

Advance tickets sold in the church office
and at the door until sold out

Great parking and easy 1 level access.

Takeout IS AVAILABLE!



Our Savior's Lutheran Church - 12th Street and Doddridge Ave
615 12th St | Cloquet MN 55720 | 218-879-1535

October Volunteers

Readers:

10/5	9:30	Marty Rye
10/12	9:30	Ron Stahl
10/19	9:30	Jan Salo-Korby
10/26	9:30	Rich Krikava

Altar Guild:

10/5	Sherri Waller
10/12	Linda Boyd
10/19	Rob Macaulay
10/26	Sherri Waller

Video Booth Operator / Video Editor:

10/5	9:30	Bruce Larson / Kelsey Rye
10/12	9:30	Bruce Larson / BE AN EDITOR VOLUNTEER!
10/19	9:30	BE A VIDEO VOLUNTEER! / BE AN EDITOR VOLUNTEER!
10/26	9:30	BE A VIDEO VOLUNTEER! / BE AN EDITOR VOLUNTEER!

Communion Servers (Palanca Deacons):

10/5	9:30	Denny Painter, Roy Ober, and Jan Larson
10/12	9:30	Ron Stahl, Linda Holmstrand, and Jim Boyd
10/19	9:30	Curt Nelson, Rob Macaulay, and Denise Mykkanen
10/26	9:30	Kathy Rye, Shannon Matzdorf, and Cindy Haglin

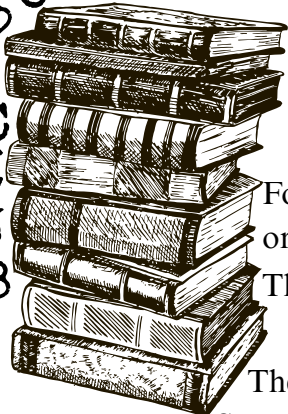
Ushers:

10/5	9:30	Hagen Family
10/12	9:30	Randall Family
10/19	9:30	Matzdorf Family
10/26	9:30	Linda and Jim Boyd, Sherri Waller

Sound Board Operators:

10/5	9:30	Jan Larson
10/12	9:30	Randy Stahl
10/19	9:30	Hear need a volunteer!
10/26	9:30	Randy Stahl

BOOK
CLUB



Meets the third Thursday of each month at 7pm at Our Savior's in the Fireside room to discuss various books of interest for both men and women.

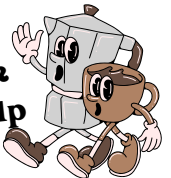
For more information contact Jan Larson or Mary Krohn.

The October book is "God of the Woods" by Liz Moore.

The November book is "The Umbrella Maker's Son: a novel of WWII" by Todd Lending.

Stay for Coffee and Treats
after service-have a chat!
Want to help host?

Ask a friendly Fellowship Team Member for help and more info.



There's even a nifty sign-up available in the Narthex.



	<u>August 25 Budget</u>	<u>August 25 Actual</u>	<u>YTD 2025 Budget</u>	<u>YTD 2025 Actual</u>
Income	18,807	19,501	164,793	159,982
Expenses	19,026	17,386	170,452	154,256
2025 Net Income	(220)	2,115	(5,658)	5,725
2024 Net Income	(1,673)	2,723	645	24,013

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Offering Needed</u>
August 24	90	2,481	3,673
August 31	76	1,900	3,673
September 7	122	9,404	4,654
September 14	110	4,469	4,654
Totals	398	18,254	16,654

Gifts & Memorials:

- Joyce Jerde in memory of Dick Bucyznki to the Youth Fund
- Florence and Dennis Nelson in memory of Carol Lyle to Hand Bell Choir



Visiting our homebound members is important! When we visit, we are bringing a reminder that in the sharing of bread and wine, our church community remembers and prays for them.

These visits can be very meaningful to both the visitor and the visited.

If you would like to volunteer to be a visitor, please call me at the church office.

Training and support included!

Contact Shannon Matzdorf
at 218-879-1535



 Community of Hope 2:16 October 2025 Dinners		
Date	Location	Main Course
Oct. 5	Good Hope Church	Chili
Oct. 12	Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Chicken Marinara over Pasta
Oct. 19	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	Taco Bar
Oct. 26	Good Hope Church	Crock Pot Ham and Pasta Alfredo

RUMMAGE SALE SUCCESS!



To everyone who donated items, helped set up, work at the sale, and to the amazing people that boxed and took away the unsold items a huge THANK YOU!

We raised slightly over \$2,000 for the roof fund, helped people declutter and hopefully assisted those in need in our community with the sale being a free will donation. I appreciate each and every one of you who helped out.

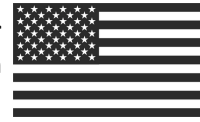
Sue Stahl



Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the members of our congregation that are former or current military. Please contact the Church office for any other members we may have missed or if any of these names should be removed.

Tim Schlenvogt
Tim Larson

Erika Blesner
River Krikava



<https://www.facebook.com/oursaviorscloquet>

Pastor:

Pastor Luke Lekander (ext. 11)
pastorluke@oursaviorscloquet.org

Visitation:

visitation@oursaviorscloquet.org
(218) 879-1535

Administrative Assistant:

Kristen Adams (ext. 10)
email@oursaviorscloquet.org

Accounting:

Bruce Larson, Bookkeeper
bruce@oursaviorscloquet.org

Sr Choir/Praise & Worship:

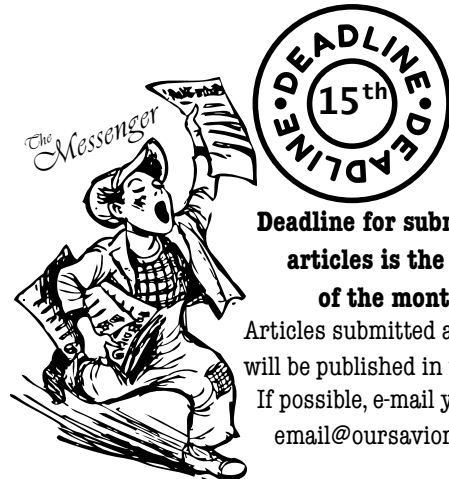
Ryan Hanson, Director
ryan.hanson77@gmail.com

Church Website:

oursaviorscloquet.org

Church Office Hours:

Sat-Sun: CLOSED
Mon-Thurs: 8:00 am - 2:30 pm
Friday: 8 am - Noon



Join us for Worship!

In Person and on 
Sundays at 9:30am



By 3:00 pm Sundays



Radio

WKLK AM 1230
@ 10:30am Sundays

CAT-7 Broadcast

2:00pm - Tuesday
3:30pm - Wednesdays
3:30pm - The Following Sunday
9:00am - Monday



*Please remember the following friends below
not always able to join us on Sundays:*

Mabel Clemens	Carolyn Watson
Robert Fountain	Sharon Harney
Ray Manisto	Lyle and Candy Hultgren
Joan Essen	Carol Maki
Bob Fuller	Karen Splett
Donna Gillmor	Donna Redding
	Jeanne Brenna

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
615 12th Street
Cloquet MN 55720
Phone: 218-879-1535



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Cloquet, MN
Permit 50

Address Service Requested
September 2025

Upcoming Events!

**CHILI COOK-OFF
& Silent Auction**
Sunday, October 5, 2025

Get an e-copy of *The Messenger* too!
See all the colors; zoom in for easy reading.
Let the office you'd like to be added to the email list.
You can even get the PRINT and the E-Version!



Generous Together
Sunday, October 19, 2025

BONFIRE AT OSLC

SUNDAY, OCT. 12TH AT 3:00PM
BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR

- FELLOWSHIP
- COCOA/CIDER
- STORYTELLING
- MUSIC



Trunk
or Treat
Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025
2:00 - 3:30pm
in the OSLC parking lot



Fall Lutefisk,



Salmon and Meatball Dinner

Saturday, November 1, 2025



3:00 - 6:00 pm

