



The Messenger

January 2026

As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:9

It is January, and I am about to embark on a continuing education journey. I am taking a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education, CPE for short. What is CPE? According to the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, CPE is interfaith professional education for ministry. It brings theological students and ministers of all faiths (pastors, priests, rabbis, imams and others) into supervised encounters with persons in crisis. Out of an intense involvement with persons in need, and the feedback from peers and teachers, students develop new awareness of themselves as persons and of the needs of those to whom they minister. From theological reflection on specific human situations, they gain a new understanding of ministry. Within the interdisciplinary team process of helping persons, they develop skills in interpersonal and interprofessional relationships.

This will be my second unit of CPE. I took my first while in seminary. What does this mean for you and your pastor? Well, this time, instead of travelling to Duluth for my classes, I will be taking the online, keeping me nearby. There are a few in-person meetings I must attend, but everything else is online. I will remain available and responsive to the needs of the congregation. Also, instead of doing my clinical hours in the hospital, I will be doing them right here. My clinical site is our parish. I will be doing all the things that I already do: visiting people in their homes or in my office, interactions on Sundays, accompanying those in sickness and health, ministry at the time of death, working with our teams during meetings and events, etc. The only real difference is that I will just focus more closely on my interactions. I will talk about them with mentors, peers, and educators. Don't worry though, everything I say is for my growth and learning, so I am required to keep everyone else involved completely anonymous. The overall goal is to help me learn and grow as a spiritual leader, your spiritual leader.

My unit begins on January 13, 2026 and concludes on April 16, 2026. I will be one of five students, most of whom are also pastors. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask me. I love to learn and grow as a pastor and as a human being. I am looking forward to this unit of CPE.

Pastor Luke

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge;
fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

Proverbs 1:7

#WalkingIndoors
You're WELCOME here any day!

Rain - snow -
heat - sleet,
WHATEVER!

walk indoors
HERE at OSLC!

How far have you come?
Check the signs!

We know you can do it
READ the messages
on the walls!

Rest on a
bench or
a chair

Follow the
walking path
signs and
sigs

Take a break!!



Radio Broadcasts for January

- 01/04 Carolyn Watson - Happy New Year!
- 01/11 Golden Sponsor Opportunity!
- 01/18 Golden Sponsor Opportunity!
- 01/25 Golden Sponsor Opportunity!

It's a good time to
walk with God
another day

Invite a friend!



Thanks to generous donations

for our Giving Tree,
we were able to assist the
Salvation Army in their

"Adopt-A-Child for Christmas"

annual project.

Twenty children
received our gifts

and in addition

we were able to send

a check for
\$500.00



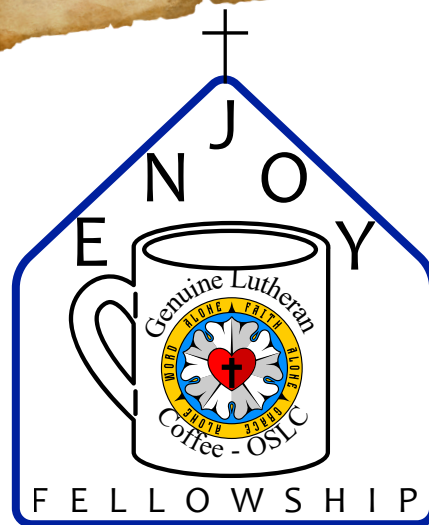


OSLC Annual Meeting Notice
Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
The Annual Meeting shall
take place following worship
service upon the
25th day of January 2026!

PPC MEMBERS

Your reports are
DUE to the office

January 5, 2026!



**WELCOME
New Members**

**Join us January 25, 2026 at 9:30 worship
celebrating and welcoming new members!**

- May we add your name?
- Would you like to be a member?
- Do you have other questions?

Ask anyone on the Welcome Team or contact
the church office - we'd be glad to have you!

Stay for cake after the service! Fellowship is warming!



The
Welcome
Team
at OSLC

Haiti Update



One of our MMM leaders, Marilyn Cluka, a retired public health nurse, went to Haiti in October to support the diabetic education efforts and presented after the service on December 7th.

She brought back video interviews with Dr. Manno and Peter Marc, who is now the clinic administrator. Check out the videos here: <https://oursaviorscloquet.org/connect-with-us/outreach> or scan a QR code below:



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



- give directly to Ministry in Medical Missions by contacting Missions Chair, Marilyn Cluka at mcnur@aol.com or 218 390 7264.
- Supporting the Haiti mission is also an option through OSLC's Vanco app! Use this handy QR code to get to the right spot: ----->



Thanks for your continued prayers and support,
Mary Krohn for Ministry in Medical Mission (MMM)

Ministry in Medical Missions



THANK YOU EVERYONE
who set up, donated, or purchased
baked goods and crafts at the
12-21-2025 event



Community of Hope 2:16 January 2026 Dinners

Date	Location	Main Course
01/04	Zion Lutheran Church	Tomato Soup & Grilled Cheese
01/11	Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Chicken and Broccoli Soup
01/18	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	Egg Bake with Muffins
01/25	Good Hope Church	Chili Day

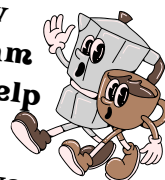


**Stay for
Coffee and
Treats**
after service
have a chat!

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.



Thank you to the volunteers and attendees who helped to make the November 1, 2025 lutefish dinner a success!

As a result, the Committee has designated a donation of \$1,000 be given to each of the following three groups:

- Second Harvest Northland
- The OSLC roof fund
- Fireside Room remodel project



AND make plans to carry on the tradition

SAVE THE DATE

November 14, 2026



May the piece of **COD** be with you



FOOD SHELF SUNDAY

The first Sunday of the month is designated as Food Shelf Sunday.

Monetary gifts collected help

BOTH

Second Harvest and
Cloquet Salvation Army.



Every \$1 donated ensures 3 meals for families, children, and seniors in need.

Let's share our blessings.

Thank you from Katie Nisula,
Irene Rudnicki, and Jen Behrens
Contributions 11-24-25 to 12-24-25

\$756.00

THANK
YOU!

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

Others in Attendance: Bruce Larson

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

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

2. Devotion and Opening Prayer: Church in Society – Centered on the Daily Bread devotion for 12-16-25, “Who Is My Neighbor?” Luke 10:25-34, 36-37.

3. Approval of November 18, 2025 Meeting Minutes: Jill made a motion and Kathy seconded to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Treasurer’s Report/ Financials

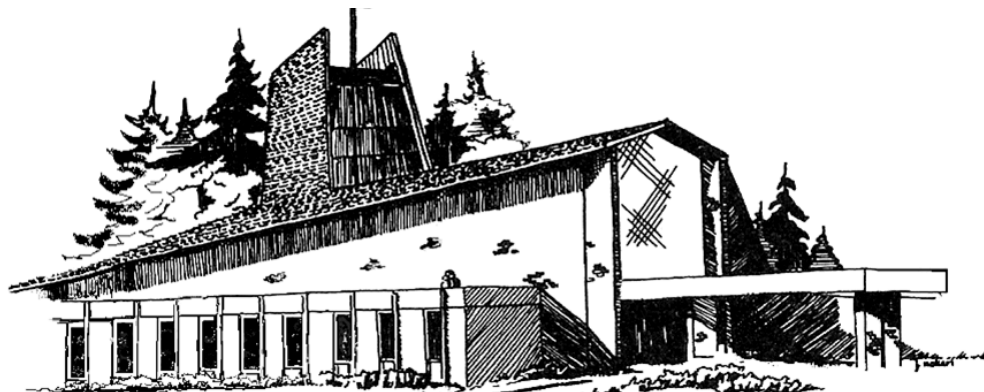
- Deb presented the following information: for November income was \$22,904 compared to our budget of \$21,407 (\$1,498 above plan) and expenses were \$18,201 compared to our budget of \$19,907 (\$1,706 below plan) for a net gain of \$3,204. YTD we are \$18,628 ahead of plan.

5. Pastor’s Report

- Since we last met, we held one confirmation class and did not meet during Thanksgiving week.
- I look forward to Advent soup supper and Holden Evening Worship on Wednesday evenings.
- I went on one visit and led two services at Inter-Faith Care Center.

6. Team Leader Reports

- Christian Education: Sunday School program is Sunday 12-21. We will be off during Christmas break and resume 1-11-26. Compiled a list of families, Pastor Luke sent email for next steps/listening session to see what families would like for Sunday School in the future. Three children received bibles at Bible Sunday and have three more interested! Putting together bags for children for Christmas Eve service.
- Church Properties: Dishwasher repaired at a cost of \$1,120. Van needs a new ABS modules estimated at \$1,500. An energy audit was conducted by MN Power through Frontier Energy, report to be issued. Money saving potential through rebates and reduce energy use. Property lines issues a work in progress, plan to have the lines surveyed. Dale Soukkala’s plow truck had a mechanical failure and while he was out of commission Andy Elias stepped up. Thanks, Andy! Boiler #2 out of service, needs gas valve replaced at a cost of ≈\$2,000. Will do ASAP.
- Palanca Deacons: Nothing new to report.
- Welcome: New Members Sunday is 1-25-26. Information on each new member will be shared on the bulletin board and Sunday service slides to get to know our newest members better. We will highlight random families in the congregation so get to know each other more.
- Fellowship: Bake sake and craft show 12-21.
- NHCP: No report
- Stewardship Team: The narrative spending plan budget first draft is completed. It is being finalized for the congregational meeting 1-25-26.



7. Team Leader Reports - continued

- Worship, Arts & Music: Making final preparations for Christmas Eve services (3 and 5 p.m.). Hosted one of the Wednesday evening community Advent services and prepped the sanctuary for Tom's annual Christmas concert.
- Youth Ministry: Middle School Youth Group continues to have high attendance. Lessons in November on how the Bible addresses anxiety. Sherri Waller taught the kids how to acolyte and read at the lectern - without being anxious. On 12-3 Roni Dinwiddie taught the kids how to play the hand bells and on 12-10 we used those skills to ring bells for the Salvation Army after setting up for the Advent Dinner. Break for the holidays after a BIG party 12-17. The success of our ministry comes from weekly volunteers like Ty Gangelhoff, Jan Larson and Cindy Raun.
- WELCA: No report
- Church in Society: Working on the blanket exercise.

7. Old Business

- Community of Hope: Dinners are on the second Sunday of the month, next one 1-11-26.
- Rental Space: Sarah Klyve's work is on hold until the NHCP Committee hears back from the architect.
- NHCP Steering Committee: Waiting to hear back from the architect.
- Establishing Core Values for Mission: The video was due to be edited by Thanksgiving.
- Fireside Room furniture and carpet replacement: Fundraiser rolled out to the congregation.
- Christmas: Bazaar and program 12-21.
- Salvation Army giving tree – All ornaments taken, gifts received and delivered to the Salvation Army.
- Minnesota Power energy audit: Discussed in Properties Team report, item 6-Church Properties.
- Annual budget presentation: Bruce presented the proposed balanced 2026 budget for a total of \$255,191. Line items were reviewed and questions answered. Bob made a motion and Deb seconded to recommend the budget as presented, with the exception of the \$1,000 of unused organ maintenance in 2025 be moved to snow removal in 2026, be approved by the Congregation. The motion carried unanimously.
- Property Lines: Marty discussed the current issues relative to church property lines as presented in an earlier memo. A proposal was received by Apex Surveying to conduct the survey for \$1,700. Sue made a motion and Jill seconded to have Apex Surveying survey the property line. The motion passed unanimously.

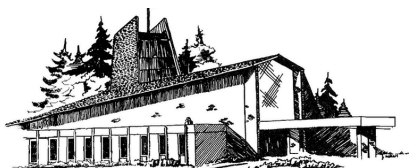
8. New Business

- Lutefisk dinner 2026 planning: The committee used proceeds in 2025 to donate \$1,000 to each of the following funds; OSLC roof, Fireside Room project and Second Harvest Northland. After the 2026 lutefisk dinner Sue and Scott Johnson of Marketplace Catering will be retiring and no longer available for the dinner. If we want to continue the dinner in 2027 and beyond, we need more help from our congregation to prepare it totally in-house. Ideas were discussed on how we might get more people involved.
- Vice President vacancy: Rob is moving to the Cities. A candidate has been identified who will ultimately replace him after a Our Savior's voting member vote.
- Team annual reports and congregational meeting: The next congregational meeting will be held Sunday 1-25-26. Team reports are due electronically to the office by 1-5-26.

10. Next Meeting January 20, 2026, 6:30 p.m.: Devotion and opening prayer--Christian Education.

11. Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

12. Adjournment: Sue made a motion and Linda seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.



Happy Birthday

Jan 2

- Bennett Pavlatos

Jan 3

- Shawn Crowser
- Hudson Rhodes
- Wendy Yrjanson

Jan 4

- Travis Smedshammer

Jan 5

- Dennis Adamscheck Sr.
- Jim Boyd

Jan 6

- Bruce Larson
- Curtis Nelson

Jan 7

- Darwin Crider
- Kirsten Rye

Jan 9

- Rhett Berglund
- Pat Elling Morris
- Rebecca Soboleski

Jan 11

- Samantha Godbout
- Andrew Jutila
- Grayson Kubat
- Gia Lennartson
- Ethan Lindgren

Jan 13

- Lisa Jensen

Jan 14

- Elizabeth Brenner

Jan 15

- Donald Unulock

Jan 17

- Margaret Hecht

Jan 18

- Haisley Hlava
- Kai Yurek

Jan 20

- Hannah Gist

- Johnny Hero

- Marlys Kent

- Hope Wallien

Jan 21

- Thomas Udenberg

Jan 22

- Kennedy Herbert

- Kevin Stephens

Jan 23

- Madison Berglund

- Marcia Fulton

- Susan Johnson

- Jody Meyer

Jan 24

- Victoria Heren

Jan 25

- Edwin Gerth

- Darlene Hendrick

- Timothy Kazmierczak

Jan 26

- Amanda Kolenda

- Amber Lattner

Jan 27

- Julie Beal

Jan 28

- Connor Hecht

- Laura Hecht

Jan 29

- Hannah Breuer

- Logan Engstrom Brula

Jan 31

- Tucker Connor

To all of my church family,
a big thank you to
everyone for your prayers,
thoughts, and cards, and
messages during my surgery,
and recovery.
also a big thank you
to Roy, Det and family, and
Laura and family for taking
such good care of me.

Linda Ober

Are you graduating in 2026?

If you are graduating from high
school next spring, we want to
hear from you!

Please contact the church office
at 218-879-1535 or
email@oursaviorscloquet.org

Altar Guild

01/04 9:30 Linda Boyd
 01/11 9:30 Rob Macaulay
 01/18 9:30 Sherri Waller
 01/25 9:30 Linda Boyd

Readers

01/04 9:30 Dylan Hanson
 01/11 9:30 Harper Elias
 01/18 9:30 Avery Elias
 01/25 9:30 Will Buytaert

Sound Board Operators

01/04 9:30 Jan Larson
 01/11 9:30 Terry and Sue Nanti
 01/18 9:30 Randy and Amy Stahl
 01/25 9:30 Jan Larson

Communion Servers (Palanca Deacons):

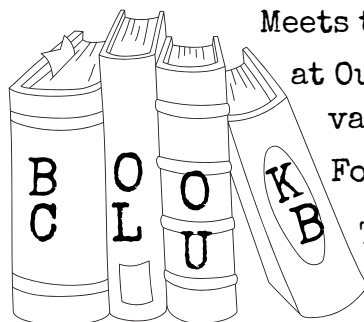
01/04 9:30 Jim Boyd, Shannon Matzdorf, Linda Holmstrand
 01/11 9:30 Curt Nelson, Roy Ober, Rob Macaulay
 01/18 9:30 Denny Painter, Jan Larson, Denise Mykkanen
 01/25 9:30 Marty Rye, Kathy Rye, Ron Stahl

Ushers

01/04 9:30 Hagen Family
 01/11 9:30 Randall Family
 01/18 9:30 Matzdorf Family
 01/25 9:30 Linda and Jim Boyd; Sherri Waller

Video Booth Operator / Video Editor

01/04 9:30 Bruce Larson / Kelsey Rye
 01/11 9:30 **NEED OPERATOR / NEED EDITOR**
 01/18 9:30 **NEED OPERATOR / NEED EDITOR**
 01/25 9:30 Bruce Larson / **NEED EDITOR**



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 January book is "The Berry Pickers" by Amanda Peters.

The February book is "Wreck" by Catherine Newman.



Quilting Group

meets monthly at 9:00 am
 on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays
 in the quilting room.

For more information, contact:
 Irene Rudnicki at 218-879-4809



IN LOVING  memory **Kirsten Rupp Vance**
 December 1, 2025

	<u>November 25 Budget</u>	<u>November 25 Actual</u>	<u>YTD 2025 Budget</u>	<u>YTD 2025 Actual</u>
Income	21,407	22,904	227,353	226,107
Expenses	19,907	18,201	231,915	212,031
2025 Net Income	1,499	4,703	(4,562)	14,076
2024 Net Income	(590)	4,594	(4,893)	34,384

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Offering Needed</u>
November 30	84	1,576	4,308
December 7	138	10,661	5,722
December 14	80	4,665	5,722
December 21	151	5,776	5,722
Totals	453	22,678	21,474

Poinsettias for the Sanctuary:

- Jane Oswald and sons in memory of of Robert Oswald, Parents/Grandparents
- Bob and Peggy DeCaigny in memory of James and Anna Mae DeCaigny
- Bob and Peggy DeCaigny in memory of Albert and Margaret Smith
- Barb Ekstrom in memory of Barry Ekstrom
- Jim and Linda Boyd in memory of Loved Ones
- Jan and Bruce Larson in celebration of Middle School Youth
- Sherri Waller in memory of Don Waller
- Sherri Waller in memory of Wally Guindon, Irvin and Dorothy Waller
- Ray and Judy Wiles in memory of Loved Ones
- Val Zack in memory of my parents
- Richard and Cindy Raun in celebration of Our Five Grandchildren
- Children of Art Martin in memory of Art Martin
- Family of Steven Martin in memory of Steven Martin
- Children of Janet Martin in memory of Janet Martin
- Bonnie Christopherson and Chuck Vadnais in memory of Loved Ones
- Linda Holmstrand in memory of Ken Holmstrand
- Faith Salo in memory of Ray and Jane Salo
- Janet and Gary McLain in memory of Sharon McLain and Jerry Smith
- Betty and Beth Lavan and Steven Harrison in memory of Gene and Tom Lavan and Sheila Harrison
- Chris and Catherine Wagner in memory of Connie Mattson
- Jack and Vicki Hagen in celebration of Jackson, Ryder, Annastyn, Finn and Briggs
- Roger and Julie Lyytinen in memory of Loved Ones
- Linda Jankowski in memory of my husband Steve Jankowski
- Terry and Sue Nanti in memory of our parents
- Linda Bush in memory of parents, John and Veronica Kesti
- Gary Roe in memory of Anne-Rochelle Roe and pets
- Gary Roe in memory of Riley Roe and Landon Hall
- Gary Roe in memory of Mahlon and Elvera Roe

- Karen Splett in memory of Elmer Splett
- Gretchen Roe in memory of Riley Roe
- Cheryl Downey in memory of former pastor Dave Ziemer
- Chris and Jennifer Robinson in memory of George Bednarek
- Chris and Jennifer Robinson in memory of Robby and Lois Robinson
- Wendy (Wolf) Yrjanson in memory of Jim and Gerry Wolf
- Liz Sinisalo in celebration of Teaching Piano at Our Savior's!
- Linda Branham in memory of Frederick W. Branham Jr.
- Sandy Strand and family in memory of Chuck Strand
- Kris and Mike Abrahamson in memory of Riley Roe; Janice Marie and James Stennes
- Joanne Pearson in loving memory of Dale A. Pearson

Gifts & Memorials:

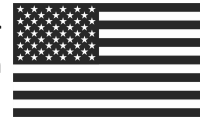
- Katie and Jerry Nisula in memory of Dick Rowe to the Food Shelf
- Virginia Stottrup Family and Friends in memory of Howard Stottrup to Sunday TV Services
- Joyce Jerde in memory of Julie Lyytinen's sister Joan Minks to the Haiti Medical Mission
- Ray and Judy Wiles in memory of Julie Lyytinen's sister Joan Minks to the Roof Fund
- Linda Holmstrand in memory of Julie Lyytinen's sister Joan Minks to the Food Shelf
- Marcia Fulton in memory of Julie Lyytinen's sister Joan Minks
- Daniel and Julie Jordan in memory of Kirsten Vance to the Food Shelf
- Sandra Rupp in memory of Kirsten Vance to the Food Shelf
- Dennis Morreim in memory of Bernice Enlund, Nancy Blom's mother to Gifts and Memorials
- Christine and Andrew Korby in celebration of Mark Korby's First Bell Performance to the General Fund
- Jane Button in memory of Kirsten Rupp Vance to the Food Shelf
- Indivisible Cloquet Committees with thanks to the General Fund




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

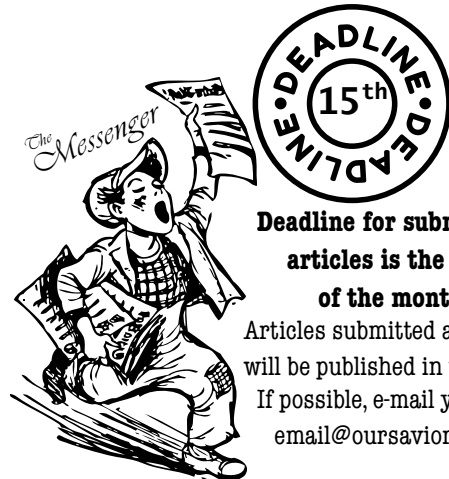
Administrative Assistant: Kristen Adams (ext. 10)
email@oursaviorscloquet.org

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
@ 11:00am 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
December 2025

Upcoming Events!

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!

