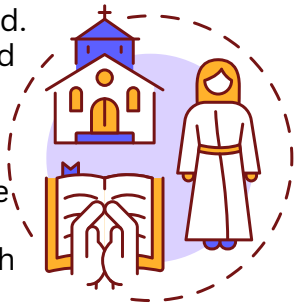
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice!"

The Messenger



**Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"
And I said, "Here am I; send me!"**
– Isaiah 6:8 NRSVUE



Making the decision to go to seminary is no small thing. It begins with a call from God. Then, comes a period of ups and downs: there are great big mountaintops of blessed assurance followed by deep valleys of doubt. And that never really goes away. Following a call to serve your neighbors as a Minister of Word or Sacrament or a Minister of Word and Service is a journey that makes one vulnerable to so many things. Everything about you is poked and prodded and explored. How you take care of your body, mind, and spirit suddenly must be known. You are examined psychologically and theologically. In some ways, the discernment process is rife with many reasons to change one's mind. Still, some of us are so called. We continue on, trusting in the God who called us to make it all worthwhile.



The ELCA and its preceding denominational bodies value a robust education, good oversight, and deep examination for any candidate to become ordained. Therefore, a thorough call process and seminary are requirements to become an ordained Pastor or Deacon in the ELCA. Traditionally, churches paid the way of members who entered the seminary. Unfortunately, the costs of seminary education continued to rise as the financial resources of our churches continued to fall. It is no longer feasible for most churches to pay for seminary. I graduated in 2019. Even though I had some generous grants and scholarships, I am still repaying my student loans. Even with all the barriers, praise be to God that people continue to answer the call to enter seminary.

Our Saviors has lifted up several candidates for ministry over the years. Many of them still serve in our Synod and beyond, in churches, hospitals, and other settings. I love this tradition and want it to continue, God willing. So, I am pleased to announce that our Congregational Council has moved to establish a Seminarian Support Fund. Our Saviors has generously seeded that fund with $1000.00. Now, it is open to receive new monies from anyone who is moved by the Spirit to keep it funded. Any seminarian member may seek monies from this fund to offset the costs of seminary. This can be for tuition, books, travel, meals, really anything that is paid for out-of-pocket to attend and participate in seminary classes and related events.



This is something I wish was available to me when I was in seminary. But not having it myself only strengthens my resolve to ensure it is there for others. So, I ask that you prayerfully consider adding to this fund. But don't stop there. Have you ever wondered about discerning your own call? Do you know someone who might have the gifts for such discernment? This new fund can be one of encouragement to explore such a call.

**Now the Lord came and stood there,
calling as before,
"Samuel! Samuel!"
And Samuel said,
"Speak, for your servant is listening."**
– 1 Samuel 3:10

Pastor Luke

Starting Wednesday Oct. 7, 2026



C'mon over
@ OSLC Fellowship Hall – Door #2

WHAT R WE GONNA DO?

- learn how the bible relates to us today
- hang out in the Youth Room
- EAT!!!
- build our faith
- play some games or do service projects

CONFIRMATION

Sign-up and Orientation
OSLC Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, October 7, 2026 | 6:30 pm

Our Savior's Cub Scout Pack 173
is gearing up for another year of fun!

#ADVENTUREON!

Who: Youth kindergarten - 5th Grade

Where: Our Savior's Church Fellowship Hall, Enter door #2

When: Thursday Nights @ 6pm - come and meet the pack, see what Scouting is about!

Info: Scan the QR code or contact the Cub Master Brandon Ojutkangas

(218) 393-7143

snowfreak08@gmail.com

THANK YOU!

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS was on SEPTEMBER 20, 2026!

God's work. Our hands.

Thank you to all who volunteered their time and talent to work on outdoor projects or indoors at Zion assembling kits. We had 65 people participate from 4 area churches

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 put together a total of:

- 119 school backpacks
- 92 baby care kits
- 82 ditty bags for seafarers
- 31 personal care kits

We completed:

- 8 outdoor projects

You have all helped to make this event a success.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Come and Join Us with Your Car!

Saturday October 31st

Arrive at 1:30 to set up

Sign up in Narthex

Decorate your car in halloween spirit



HALLOWEEN

TRUNK OR TREAT

OCT. 31

2:00 - 3:30 PM

Ministry in Medical Missions

Haiti Update

Please check out the Haiti bulletin board outside of the Fireside Room for a couple of updates from Dr. Manno and his team. Peter Marc, who is helping with clinic administration, has sent a brief story about one of their diabetic patients who has been cared for through the Agape fund as well as an update on activities at the clinic from January through July of this year. These are posted on that bulletin board.

The clinic is working to repair a leaky roof over their laboratory. As part of this repair they are exploring the possibility of adding space for a few more beds. The 10 bed "hospital" portion of the clinic has been getting heavy use. They do these repairs and expansions as they get funds available for supplies.

The Apple Festival fund raiser is on our doorstep. It will be on October 4, 2026, at Zion Lutheran Church. Jam will be available there as well as apples from the trees at Zion, apple juice, apple tasting and fun music. Join in anytime from 1:30 to 4 PM.

Thank you for your continued support in prayer, supplies and finances

Mary Krohn for Ministry in Medical Mission

Want to add your support for Haiti? Scan here and donate through Vanco: -->

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

08-24-2026 to 09-20-2026

$265.00



Thanks to all who helped with and supported the rummage sale! The rummage sale raised $2,307.27 in donations. $1,000 was given to the United Way of Carlton County Imagination Library Fund and $1,307.27 placed in the roof fund.

Please watch for the fall Stewardship letter and pledge cards, coming soon!

Please take the time to prayerfully consider what you may be able to do to support your church in 2027. You may return the cards to the office at your convenience or bring them to the service on pledge Sunday, October 18, 2026. Just a quick reminder that putting forth your best guess as to your next years' giving plan is a kindness to your church leadership who must plan next year's budget.

thank you from the Stewardship Team

Your generosity makes EVERYTHING possible!

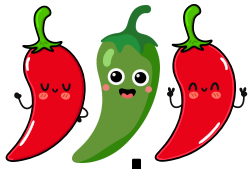
Radio Broadcasts for October 2026

10/04	**GOLDEN SPONSOR OPPORTUNITY!**
10/11	**Cindy and Dean Haglin in celebration of Dean's 80th birthday!**
10/18	**GOLDEN SPONSOR OPPORTUNITY!**
10/25	**GOLDEN SPONSOR OPPORTUNITY!**



09/27	**Roger and Julie Lyytinen in Celebration of our 60th Anniversary 10-1!**

Chili Challenge





October 18, 2026 | 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Fellowship Hall

Cost: $7 $5 ages 5–12 Free age 5 and under

Sign up as a team, group, or individual to make chili for this fun fellowship event.
The chili champ will get their name added to OSLC chili bowl!
To add to the challenge and fun decorate your table area with decorations or a theme.
Get creative with a name for yourself, team, or group.



Love to eat chili and enjoy great fellowship but don't want to cook?
Come and enjoy sampling all the different chili and join in on our
Chili challenge activities. We are also looking for volunteers to help with this event, sign up poster in the narthex!



Congregation Council Minutes 09/15/2026

Present: Brad Browers (Worship, Arts and Music), Bob DeCaigny (Secretary), Lisa Hecht (Stewardship), Linda Holmstrand (Fellowship and WELCA), Kobe Kadelbach (Vice President), Pastor Luke Lekander, Shannon Matzdorf (Welcome), Kathy Rye (Palanca Mutual Ministry and Church in Society), Marty Rye (Properties)

Unable to attend: Jill Elwood (Youth), Roxanne Frederick (Christian Education), Connor Hecht (President), Deb Templeton (Treasurer)

Others: Richard Krikava

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

2. Devotion and Opening Prayer: Secretary – Centered on humility (Christ in Our Home devotion 9-8-26).

3. Approval of September 15, 2026 agenda: Linda made a motion and Lisa seconded to approve the agenda with the addition of New Business item 7.d., the motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of August 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes: The meeting minutes were approved via email.

5. Treasurer's Report/ Financials

- Bob provided the following information from Bruce's report: for August income was $22,297 compared to our budget of $18,788 ($3,509 over plan) mainly due to the envelope offering being over by $2,737 and expenses were $16,949 compared to our budget of $17,877 ($928 under plan). Year-to-date 2026 is $11,292 ahead of plan.

6. Pastor's Report

- It's been a bit of a quiet month. I joyously officiated a wedding for two members. I enjoyed co-leading worship with Rev. Paul Lutter. The "Rejoice Always" event at Inter-Faith Care Center was fabulous. Thank you to the Welcome Team for taking on this faith-filled event with me. I played in the band for newly elected Bishop Taryn Montgomery's installation. And I just got back from the NE MN Synod's Fall Leadership Retreat. I am looking forward to kicking off Confirmation this fall. Our Confirmation Sunday will be on Reformation Sunday 10-25.

7. Team Leader Reports

- Christian Education: Met in August. We planned for the upcoming Sunday School year and all of the changes taking place with our "Saplings" Sunday School program. We had a great Rally Sunday with many families registering for Sunday school and confirmation. Thank you to all who made Rally Sunday a success! We have a total of 10 teachers and 2 music leaders to start our new program this fall and will be using the Spark curriculum. Sunday School will begin 9-27 from 9:30-10:30 during church service. Pastor Luke will do the children's sermon at the beginning of service and then release the children to SS. We will have 3 classes: pre-k/kindergarten, grades 1-3 and 4-6. The third Sunday of every month will be Family Sunday Service, so no SS on those days. Children and families will be encouraged to take part in the service with greeting, acolyting, reading, music, etc. The "Seedlings" nursery will be available for infant - 4yr olds. Nursery attendants are still needed. Confirmation begins 10-7. Adult Education will continue to have book reading and walking available in the church throughout the year.

- Church Properties: Property survey to be discussed below. Office LED light conversion is in progress.

- Palanca Mutual Ministry: Nothing new to report.

- Welcome: We ran games at Rally Sunday and the Inter-Faith event on 9-13. We will help with the Synod Mission Dinner on 9-29. We're starting advertising for Trunk or Treat which will be held on Saturday 10-31.

- Fellowship: We will meet on 9-16 to discuss the Synod Mission Dinner on 9-29, the Chili Challenge on 10-18.

- Stewardship Team: The rummage sale raised $2,307.27 in donations. $1,000 was given to the United Way of Carlton County Imagination Library Fund and $1,307.27 for the sanctuary roof replacement fund. The fall stewardship letter and pledge cards will be ready to mail near the end of September. Celebration of these gifts (pledge Sunday) TBD by Pastor Luke and the WAM team.

- Worship, Arts & Music: Met to review the prior seasons and plan for Fall and Winter. Topics were discussed around service format and significant Sundays between now and Lent. Of note: plan to continue two services on Christmas Eve, with possibly a slight adjustment to the second service start time. Advent will also have Wednesday evening worship services available like last year, shared between various local churches. In other news, the music teams are preparing for their first performances for Rally Sunday, including the choir and handbells. Organ spot tuning was also done by Brad and Kristen. We were fortunate to have our organ service technician in the area for a tuning assist on one of the particularly difficult organ ranks.

- Youth Ministry: We are preparing for the start of Middle School Youth Group on Wednesday, 10-7. Part of the preparation has been to clean out the old Youth Storage Room #16 and move it to room #9 so that it is closer to Sunday School and NHCP storage and supply rooms. Helped with Rally Sunday and registration. It is expected that we will have 2-5 new middle schoolers joining us this fall! Jill will contact the parents of some students and invite them to help at the Synod Mission Dinner on 9-29.

CC Minutes Continued

7. Team Leader Reports *continued*

- WELCA: Nothing new to report.
- Church in Society: Nothing new to report.

8. Old Business

- Community of Hope: OSLC hosted the community meal 9-13. Next one at OSLC is 10-11.
- Revival Day: Was held at the Inter-Faith Care Center on 9-13 from 2 – 4 p.m. It was a great success.
- Sanctuary roof replacement: Andrew Elias Enterprises LLC was awarded the job last month. He will begin the project either later this week or early next week. The area by the dumpster will be used for materials laydown.
- Seminarian Support Fund: Bruce Larson will establish this as a designated account yet this week. Pastor Luke will mention the fund in his next Messenger letter.

9. New Business

- Property survey update – The survey markers were placed by Apex Land Surveying of McGregor. Iron monuments exist at each corner. There is encroachment on the north and east sides. A recommendation needs to be made for resolution such as a discussion with the neighbors and notify them to remove items on OSLC property. The officers will discuss this further and develop an action plan.
- Past President replacement: Richard Krikava is willing to fill the Past President's position for the remainder of the term (until April 2027). The officers recommend the CC approve this action.
  - Kobe made a motion and Shannon seconded to appoint Richard Krikava to fill the vacated Past President's office until April of 2027, the motion carried unanimously.
- FY2027 budget planning: Due to personal schedule conflicts in December, Bruce would like to move the budgeting process up a couple weeks.A timeline for the process was distributed. The officers recommend the initial budget be available for review 11-16 to 11-18 (out of the two dates he recommended). The council agreed.
- Potential Horizon Hall rental – The potential renter is a part of the ELCA. The officers recommend we contact them to offer the space at $10/sq ft or $3,053 per month (includes janitor services) for all of Horizon Hall. They are interested in discussing a five-year term. If the potential renter is interested in taking the next step, a rental agreement would be developed and presented to the CC for their approval.
  - Shannon made a motion and Richard seconded to offer Horizon Hall to the potential renter at $10/sq ft or $3,053 per month (includes janitorial services), the motion carried unanimously.

10. Action item review: The list was reviewed and updated as needed.

11. Next Meeting October 20, 2026, 6:30 p.m.: Devotion and opening prayer--Stewardship

12. Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

12. Adjournment: Linda made a motion and Marty seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m., the motion carried unanimously.



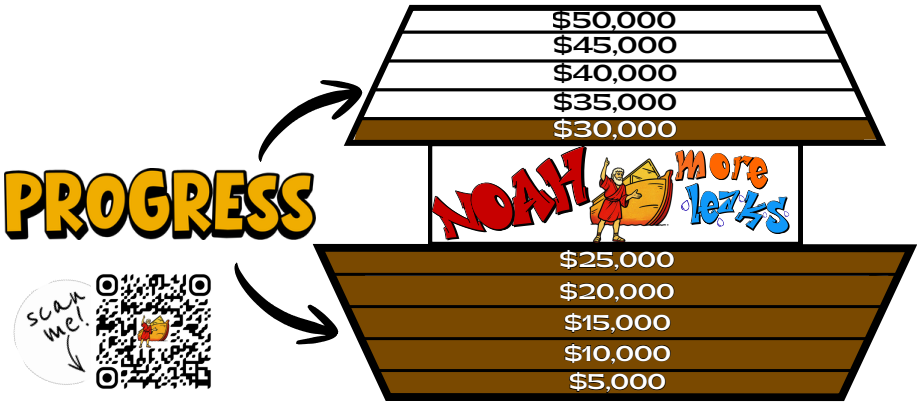


NOAH more leaks CHALLENGE

Friends – we have a holy roof and it is currently blessed with leaks.

- The roof rebuild bid of $208,000- ACCEPTED!
- Project started September 21, 2026
- Efforts to raise $100,000 has been jump-started by several members who have pledged a total of $50,000 if matched by the congregation
- This means every $1 you donate gets DOUBLED!
- Over $30,000 of the match has already been received
- Want to spread out your support over time - GREAT!
- Is it a gift above regular giving? THANK YOU! Please note "ROOF REBUILD"





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
- Ken Hedmark

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
- Morgan Hamann
- Jan Salo Korby

Oct 18
- Dave Beal
- Cathy Hedmark

Oct 19
- Teresa Gilchrist

Oct 20
- Karen Johnson

Oct 21
- Dawson Hoffman
- Isabel Nelson

Oct 24
- Marilyn Gilchrist
- Whitney Gladen

Oct 24
- Marilyn Gilchrist
- Whitney Gladen

Oct 25
- Mikaela Krikava
- Juli Lattner

Oct 26
- Nate LaFond
- Carrie Rye

Oct 28
- Barbara Ekstrom

Oct 29
- Janice Engstrom
- Bryn Swanson

October Volunteers

Altar Guild

10/04	9:30	Sherri Waller
10/11	9:30	Linda Boyd
10/18	9:30	Sherri Waller
10/25	9:30	Rob Macaulay

Communion Servers (Palanca Mutual Ministry):

10/04	9:30	Dave Templeton, Deb Templeton, Linda Jankowski
10/11	9:30	Linda Holmstrand, Roy Ober, Jim Boyd
10/18	9:30	Cindy Haglin, Dean Haglin, Curt Nelson
10/25	9:30	Kathy Rye, Jan Larson, Rob Macaulay

Readers

10/04	9:30	Gavin Painter
10/11	9:30	Richard Krikava
10/18	9:30	Crimsen Hanson
10/25	9:30	Keith Matzdorf

Ushers

10/04	9:30	Hagen Family
10/11	9:30	Randall Family
10/18	9:30	Matzdorf Family
10/25	9:30	Jim and Linda Boyd, Sherri Waller

Sound Board Operators

10/04	9:30	Terry and Sue Nanti
10/11	9:30	Terry and Sue Nanti
10/18	9:30	Randy and Amy Stahl
10/25	9:30	**HEAR NEED OPERATOR**

Video Booth Operator / Video Editor

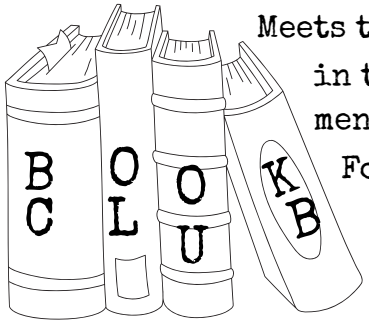
10/04	9:30	Kelsey Rye / Kelsey Rye
10/11	9:30	VOLUNTEER NEEDED / Brad Browers
10/18	9:30	VOLUNTEER NEEDED/ VOLUNTEER
10/25	9:30	VOLUNTEER NEEDED/ Brad Browers

Prepare to plant the POLLINATOR PLOT 10-11-2026!



Community of Hope 2:16
October 2026 Dinners
Served at 4pm

Date	Location	Main Course
Oct. 4	Good Hope Church	Teriyaki Chicken
Oct. 12	Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Chicken Wild Rice Soup
Oct. 18	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	Deli Sandwiches
Oct. 26	Good Hope Church	Pigs in a Blanket



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 "Brave the Wild River" by Melissa Sevigny.

The November book is "Daughters of the Lake" by Wendy Webb

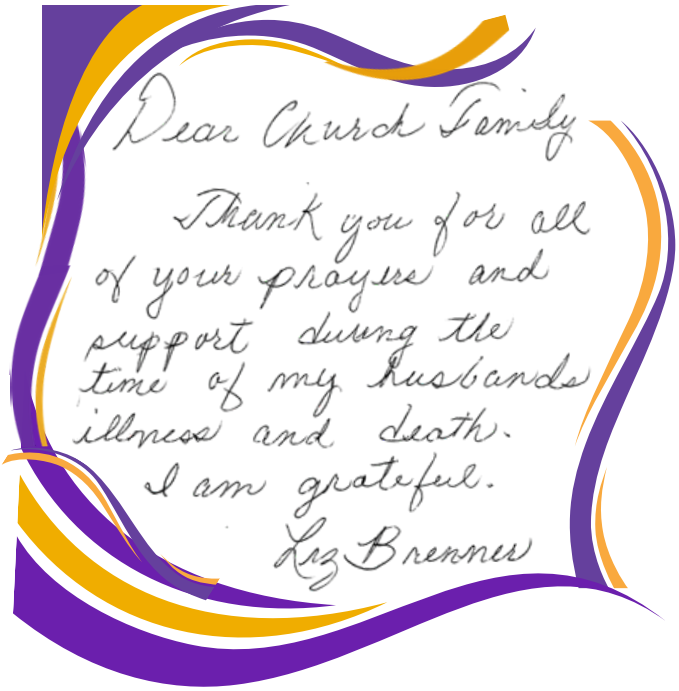
Church Records

	August 26 Budget	August 26 Actual	YTD 2026 Budget	YTD 2026 Actual
Income	18,788	22,297	165,542	174,770
Expenses	17,877	16,949	169,762	167,698
2026 Net Income	912	5,349	(4,220)	7,072
2025 Net Income	(220)	2,115	(5,658)	5,725

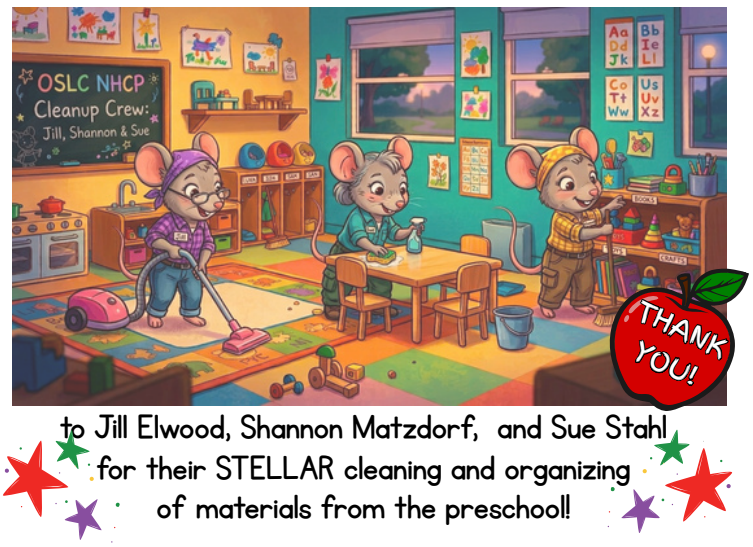
Date	Attendance	Offering	Offering Needed
Aug 30	77	3,064	3,665
Sep 6	84	8,755	4,643
Sep 13	107	2,623	4,643
Sep 20	102	3,558	4,643
Totals	***370***	***18,000***	***17,594***

Gifts & Memorials:

- Linda Eastgate in memory of mother Marlene Hilton to the Roof Replacement project.
- Linda Eastgate in memory of Pastor Luke's father Jimmy Lekander to the Roof Replacement project
- Linda Holmstrand in memory of Dick Brenner to the Roof Fund
- The Hecht Family in memory of Dick Brenner to the Roof Fund
- Ray and Judy Wiles in memory of Dick Brenner to the Roof Fund
- Linda Eastgate in memory of Jeanne Morreim to the Roof Fund
- Jan Beberg in memory of Dick Brenner to the Roof Fund
- Katie and Jerry Nisula in memory of Dick Brenner to the Roof Fund
- Karen Dormanen in memory of Liz Brenner's husband Dick, to the Roof Fund
- Jane Oswold in memory of Dick Brenner to the Roof Fund







to Jill Elwood, Shannon Matzdorf, and Sue Stahl for their STELLAR cleaning and organizing of materials from the preschool!

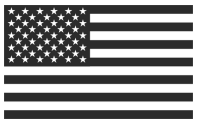
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice!"

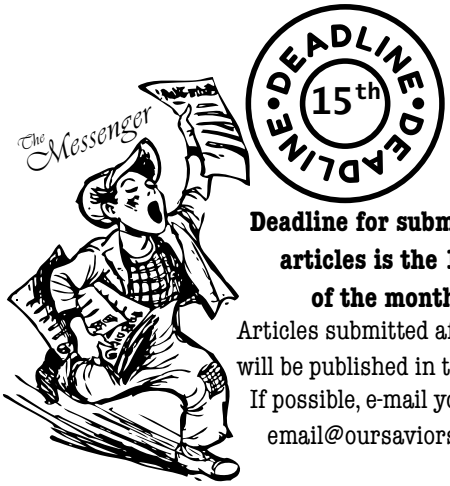
615 12th Street
Cloquet, MN 55720-2321
oursaviorscloquet.org
Office: (218) 879-1535
email@oursaviorscloquet.org
https://www.facebook.com/oursaviorscloquet

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



Pastor:	Pastor Luke Lekander pastorluke@oursaviorscloquet.org
Visitation:	visitation@oursaviorscloquet.org (218) 879-1535
Administrative Assistant:	Kristen Adams 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



Deadline for submitting articles is the 15th of the month.
Articles submitted after the 15th will be published in the next issue. If possible, e-mail your article to: email@oursaviorscloquet.org.



Join us for Worship!

In Person and on
Sundays at 9:30am

YouTube
By 3:00 pm Sundays



Radio
WKLK AM 1230
@ 11:00am Sundays

CAT-7 Broadcast
3:00pm - Thursday
3:00pm - The Following Sunday



Let's meet

Pr. Luke doesn't keep regular office hours yet remains available to meet with you.

Please contact Kristen in the office to set up a time and place to meet with Pr. Luke. He'll even buy you a cup of coffee ☺

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

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

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

Find us on facebook

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September 2026

Upcoming Events!

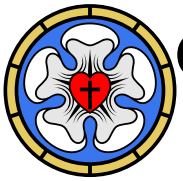
Get an e-copy of *The Messenger* too!
See all the colors; zoom in for easy reading.
Let the office you'd like to be added to the email list. You can even get the PRINT and the E-Version!











CONFIRMATION
Welcome 10-07-26





Our Savior's
Cub Scout
Pack 173

#ADVENTUREON!