

Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
138 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Northwest  
Valley City, ND 58072

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Valley City, ND  
Permit #39

November 2023



**OUR SAVIOR'S**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Our Mission:**

We, Our Savior's family of believers, welcome all to share Christ's love, to grow in faith, and to live a life of service glorifying God.

**Our Values:**

- All Generations
- Neighbors – Near & Far
- Sharing Generously
- Rejoicing & Weeping Together

# Our Savior's Lutheran Church

## November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Confirmation @ OSLC 8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group	2	3	4 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship 10-3pm Synod Lay Ministries Training
5 <b>All Saints Sunday</b> 8:30am Worship 8:30am Facebook Live 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Book Study 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship 10:30am Worship 11:00am Radio Broadcast	6 12:05pm Sr. High Lunch	7 9:00am Ministerial 9:00am Quilters 1:30pm Text Study	8 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Confirmation @ OSLC 7:00pm Committees 8:00pm Council	9	10 Office/ Building Closed	11 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
12 8:30am Worship 8:30am Facebook Live 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship No Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:00am Radio Broadcast	13 12:05pm Sr. High Lunch	14 9:00am Quilters 1:30pm Text Study	15 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Confirmation @ OSLC 8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group	16 8:30am Lefsa	17	18 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship 8:30-11:00am WELCA Bake & Quilt Sale
19 8:30am Worship 8:30am Facebook Live 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:00am Radio Broadcast 4:00pm Community Thanksgiving Service @ Congregational Church	20 No Sr. High Lunch	21 9:00am Quilters	22 9:30am Bible Study No Confirmation	23 Office/ Building Closed	24 Office/ Building Closed	25 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
26 8:30am Worship 8:30am Facebook Live 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship No Sunday School 11:00am Radio Broadcast	27 12:05pm Sr. High Lunch	28 9:00am Quilters 1:30pm Text Study	29 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Confirmation @ OSLC	30		

## Lutheran World Relief

"The Quilt and Kit Ministry allows Lutheran World Relief to love neighbors during the hardest time of their lives, when they are exhausted, homeless, grieving and terrified. Without your generosity, some neighbors may be completely on their own to survive when everything they worked for is gone. Your quilts and kits are literally the answer to their prayers." This message is from Daniel Speckhard, President and CEO of LWR. To this we, members of Our Saviors Lutheran, can say, "we are happy to be a part of this amazing ministry"! Our Fall shipment of LWR Quilts and Kits was sent to Fargo in October. From there the items are taken to the shipping warehouse in Minneapolis and from there shipped to 19 countries, that are most in need, worldwide. To this great humanitarian need, OSL was able to contribute 130 Quilts, 287 School Kits, 163 Personal Care Kits, and 80 Baby Care Kits in 2023!

To this, comes a huge thank you to all of you who contributed in any way! Whether you helped make quilts on a Tuesday, shopped for items for the kits, cut and hemmed blankets or crocheted blankets for baby kits, assembled, packed, and took the shipment to Fargo or gave monetary contributions—it is all an important part of this ministry and is so appreciated. We would be remiss if we didn't thank Thrivent for their generous grant program that many OSL and Thrivent members take advantage of to buy items for kits in bulk. If you need more information on this program, you can let me know. You can see more info on Lutheran World Relief and the totals of Quilts and Kits OSL has given since 2012 on the bulletin board outside of the church office. We don't stop with the making of quilts and kits but also send dollars for the shipping of the items. A portion of the close to \$3000 raised at the Treasure Sale will be sent along with items for shipping. So thank you to all of you who contributed items and who helped in that way!

As you can see, Our Saviors has used "Our Hands" to do "Gods Work" for Lutheran World Relief!

To this, I say Thank You and God Bless You! Jan Stowman, President of Women of Our Saviors

So, it's on to the next event! Save the date for the BAKE, QUILT and LEFSE SALE on Saturday, November 18 from 8:30am-11:00am. Lefse making will be held on Thursday, November 16 from 8:30 til done. There will be a sign up sheet for workers, there are jobs for everyone!



Burton Vrem  
DeLores Ust  
Les Manstrom  
Donald Taylor  
Rory Mulvaney  
Keith Olson  
Allan Lerud  
Amy Schrenk  
Erling Holm  
Jon Nilles  
Gladys Pederson

Maynard Satrom  
Marian Koering  
Pearl Foth  
June Parker  
Sylvia Nathan  
Myrna McGregor  
Harry Pearce  
Evangeline Badger  
Yvonne Holm  
Helen Odegard

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## Mark your Calendar

Church Office & Building will be closed on November 10th and November 23 & 24.

Thank you

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## Thanksgiving Food Baskets

It's Thanksgiving Basket time! Our Savior's will be partnering with Faith Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran for the annual Thanksgiving Basket mission project. Baskets will be filled Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> (5:30 PM) and delivered/picked up on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> (5:00 PM). If you are interested in helping, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the gathering area. All ages and abilities are welcome to help!

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## BARNES COUNTY MINISTERIAL Community Thanksgiving Service

**November 20, 2022 @ 4:00p.m.**  
**Congregational**  
**Valley City, ND**



## Notes from your Treasurer\$\$

It is just the middle of October as I sit down at my computer to write my November newsletter message. My brain is still pondering all my October (winter preparation) to-do lists. You may have your own "Fall – to do lists" preparing for the snow season—yard work, clean the garage, take care of patio/deck furniture, get the bird feeders ready, bring the snow shovels into the garage, and the list goes on.

While all those lists are in the back of my mind or on a paper on my fridge waiting for tasks to be crossed off, my every morning begins the same: Take my early morning meds, make a cup of coffee, take Jigger (dog) and MacArthur (cat) outside, and sit down on the couch with my Bible, notebook, and my devotional books. I even noticed that I have a certain order that I read and ponder these four devotionals. I have become a creature of habit!

I am sure that you also have some sort of morning schedule and it doesn't matter what time that begins, as long as you begin it with God's blessings! It sets you up to have a great day. I'm also thinking that if you have your own "Fall- to do List", you are way ahead of me.

Financially, your gifts are very timely and appreciated. It takes the worry out of my bill-paying and record keeping for OSLC. I enjoy the communications that I have with you regarding your church finances. Feel free to contact me whenever you have questions.

I leave you with Psalm 37:34 "Put your hope in the Lord. Travel steadily along His path."

**In God's grip,  
Janet Brown**

### Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday | 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

### Contact Information

Pastor Kyle Symanski

Cell - (708)476-8712

[klsymanski@gmail.com](mailto:klsymanski@gmail.com)

Church Office

845-1328

[oursaviorsvc@outlook.com](mailto:oursaviorsvc@outlook.com)



**FACES  
OF OUR  
FAITH**  
BOLD & UNTOLD STORIES

There are many heroes of the faith, people we admire and wish to be. However, there are even more ordinary people of faith—those doing what they can with what they have to make a difference. Together, we'll dig deep into the bold and untold stories of those often overlooked in our biblical narratives, hoping these characters remind us that we all play a role in shaping God's story of redemption and grace.

**November 5<sup>th</sup> (All Saints Sunday)**—"Anna and Simeon"

**November 12<sup>th</sup>** – "The Ethiopian Eunuch"

**November 19<sup>th</sup>** – "Lydia"

**November 26<sup>th</sup>** – "Philemon"



The season of Advent is known for haunting melodies, apocalyptic imaginations, longing for change, and a whole lot of waiting. But what if Advent is more about a demand, an immediate and urgent call for something different? So this year, we try a different kind of Advent. We expect Jesus to be in our midst, consistently demand God's presence, and trust the Holy Spirit in our call, "Why Wait?!"

Advent I + December 3<sup>rd</sup> + "Comfort Now"

Advent II + December 10<sup>th</sup> + "Lament Now"

Advent III + December 17<sup>th</sup> + "Peace Now"



## November Bible Study Opportunities

**Wednesday Bible Study | 9:30 a.m. in the Gathering Room** – We gather for study, reflection, questions, and laughter each week in the Gathering Room. This month, we continue to walk through some of the Bible's lesser told tales as part of our "Faces of Our Faith" Series. Join us for conversation and community!



## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

God's blessings to Camryn Berg, Jackson Brantl, Jackson Eisen, Brody Hagen, Rilyn Johnson, Kadie Kocha, Lauren Larsen, Parker Sather, Abigail Wangrud, and Rachel Belgard who affirmed their baptisms on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.



### Meeting Highlights – October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

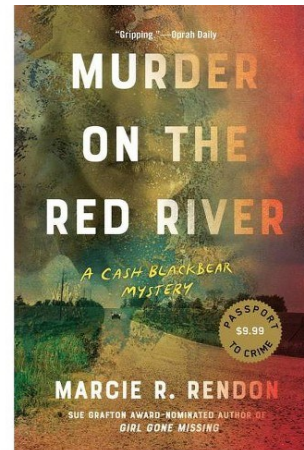
**Personnel Manual:** Pr. Kyle and Margaret Dahlberg are in process of creating and cultivating a personnel manual. A draft for review will be brought to the Executive Committee in November and to the full Council in December.

**Holiday Worship Schedule:** Holiday worship times were set as follows: 9:30 a.m., 3:00 p.m., and 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve; 9:30 a.m. on Christmas Day; and 9:30 a.m. on New Years' Eve.

**New Members Welcomed:** Justin, Lindsey, Aiden, and Emma Johnson.

**Transfers Out:** Emily Formo

# Loving Neighbors Better



**October Congregational Read:** *Murder on the Red River* by Marcie R. Rendon

**Book Reflection Session:** Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

Join Pr. Kyle for a conversation and reflection on *Murder on the Red River*, Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> between services. The novel, set in the 1970s, explores the topic of racism, genocide, and oppression through the lens of a rural community. Together, we'll wonder about how we as people of faith can love our native and indigenous neighbors better. Copies of the book can be found on the "Loving Neighbors Better" resource shelf in the new conference room.





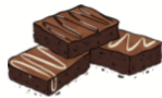


## HI-LINER FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

The Hi-Liner Food Pantry, serving VCHS students and families, continues to collect donations in the tote near the welcome center. During October, donations of canned vegetables are especially welcome.

To donate to the Bridges Backpack Program, please make your check out to and mail to:

**Bridges Backpack Program, Inc., 674 10th Ave SW,  
Valley City, ND 58072.**



### BE A SENIOR HIGH LUNCH SUPPORTER!

Would you be willing to make bars/cookies/dessert for Senior High Lunch? We are serving as many as 90 – 100 kids every Monday and Pr. Kyle needs your help to feed them all! Consider signing up on the information counter to be a “Senior High Lunch Supporter” and cover dessert for a Monday lunch. Sign up on your own or with friends, and then drop off your desserts on Sunday after worship or Monday morning before 10:00 a.m. so they can be enjoyed by our favorite Senior High Hi-Liners. Questions? Chat with Pr. Kyle – and thanks in advance!

### Snack Donations for Youth Activities



Donations of non-perishable snack and drink items (chips, cookies, prepackaged goodies, water bottles, juice, etc...) are welcome this month to stock our shelves for youth activities throughout the year. You can drop off items at the church during the week or on Sunday mornings. Be in touch with Pr. Kyle if you have any questions. Thanks for your glad and generous hearts.

Connect with us:



Be sure to stay up to date with all the most current OSLC information and updates by connecting with us on our website, [oursaviorsvc.org](http://oursaviorsvc.org), and by following us on our social media pages: Facebook, @OurSaviorsValleyCity, and on now on TikTok, @oursaviorsvcnd.



## MISSIONARY CALENDAR

The 2023 Missionary Calendar is up! For \$25 a day you can show your support of our Missionaries Willie and Anne Langdji, who support the work of the Lutheran Church in Western Africa. They walk alongside of medical centers, schools, churches, food ministries to support and encourage local efforts. The calendar also supports the work of Global Health Ministries that ship medical supplies and supports medical facilities all over the globe.

Sign up on the calendar and earmark your donation for “Missionary Calendar.”

Please considering holding Willie & Anne, Global Health Ministries, and our partner church in the Central African Republic in regular prayer. We are church TOGETHER!



Mark your calendar  
**Sounds of the Season is back!**

Enjoy organ/piano music over the noon hour on Wednesdays, December 6, 13, 20.

12:02pm-1:00pm



# OSLC YOUTH

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## **Pre-K - 6th**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sunday School will run from 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. each week and is open to students grades Pre-K through 6th grade. It's not too late to get registered! Contact Sunday School Superintendent, Katie Sather, with any questions at [oslcsundayschool@outlook.com](mailto:oslcsundayschool@outlook.com)

**Note:** Sundays, November 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> – **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**Save the Date:** Sunday School Christmas Program – December 10<sup>th</sup> during 10:30 a.m. Worship

## **7th - 12th**

**CONFIRMATION FOR 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> GRADERS:** Class during the month of November will be held from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. A full calendar for the year can be found on our website [oursaviorsvc.org](http://oursaviorsvc.org). Make sure you are following through with your worship leadership opportunities and worship note expectations.

**10<sup>th</sup> GRADE CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 2023:** God's blessings to Camryn Berg, Jackson Brantl, Jackson Eisen, Brody Hagen, Rylyn Johnson, Kadie Kocha, Lauren Larsen, Parker Sather, Abigail Wangrud, and Rachel Belgard who affirmed their baptisms on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

**SENIOR HIGH LUNCH:** Senior High Lunch is back! All Senior High Students, 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade, are welcome and invited to share in this free, home-cooked meal. Bring your friends and spread the word!

**SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP (10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade):** Senior High Youth Group for grades 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> will generally gather on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 8:00 p.m. in the OSLC Youth Room. To stay connected, join our Remind App group by texting @oslcsyhg to the number 81010. By signing up, you'll get reminders about when we're meeting and the fun planned for that night.



## **22/23 IN REVIEW...**

- 125 Ongoing Pledges
- \$830,680 Pledged
- Over \$696,000 Received
- New Conference Space and Old Library Refinished and Enlivened
- West Steps Reconstructed and New Handrails Installed
- Gathering Room Welcome Center and Informational TV Installed
- Expanded Archive Space Created
- Chimes System Installed

Believe it or not, we are into the final stretch of our three year “Growing in Grace” Capital Appeal. As we turn the calendar to year three this November, it’s incumbent of me to share once again my overwhelming gratitude to each and every one of you that have made this adventure such a success.

When we began this process in the summer and fall of 2021, no one could have known what the next years would hold. But your response was one of abundance, generosity, and gratitude, and because of it, we sit poised to step into next year and generations to come with Our Savior’s as a center for mission in Valley City and beyond.

Though this year saw less major changes and updates to the church, so much was accomplished. Outdated and under-functioning spaces were reimagined, and work continues modernizing and refocusing church resources. We maintained this level of energy and accomplishment amidst a year of transition at OSLC, with this month marking now more than a full year without additional pastoral or ministry staffing. You, dear church, stepped up and kept us moving forward. Many individuals have fulfilled their pledges early, more still continue to give above and beyond to this Appeal and any number of other projects. Because of your faithfulness and commitment, we have not yet had to draw on our line of credit and we sit in a good position as we look to step into ambitious kitchen and youth room projects in 2023/24.

I am so grateful for the ways in which you all continually support the mission and ministry of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, and I cannot wait to see where we are at this time next year. Our goals and hopes remain lofty, but I trust that with you, and especially with God, all things are possible.

In gratitude and wonder,