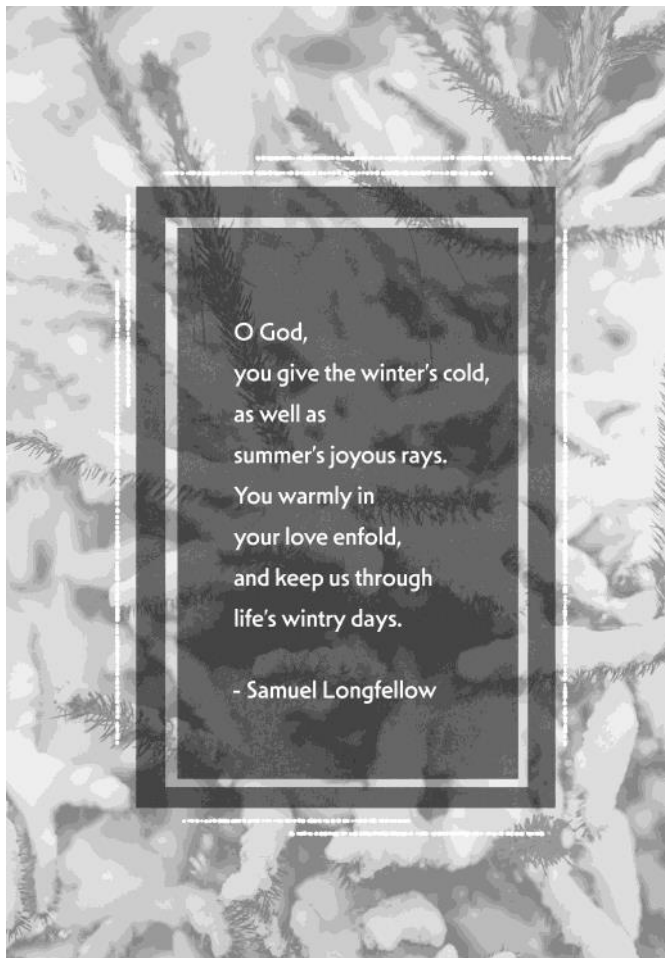


Our Savior's Lutheran Church
138 3rd Street Northwest
Valley City, ND 58072

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Valley City, ND

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

February 2025



Church Building Hours

Monday – Thursday
9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Friday

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday

9:00 am—1:00 pm

(701) 845-1328

oursaviorsvc@outlook.com

Ann Ripplinger

Office Manager/Financial Secretary

Pastor Nicholas Rohde

Cell - (507)696-1492

rohndni01@gmail.com

Interim Pastor Rich Kramer

(701)612-3465

Kramerr2846@gmail.com

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
2 9:00am Worship 9:00am Facebook Live 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10: 00am Sunday School 11:00am Radio Broadcast	3	4 9:00am Quilters 1:30 pm Text Study	5 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Confirmation at Trinity 8:00 pm Sr High	6	7	8 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
9 9:00am Worship 9:00am Facebook Live 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00am Radio Broadcast	10	11 9:00am Quilters 1:30 pm Text Study	12 9:30am Bible Study 6:30 pm Confirmation at Trinity 7:00 Committees 8:00 Council	13	14	15 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
16 9:00am Worship 9:00am Facebook Live 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 11:00am Radio Broadcast	17 6:30 pm PEO	18 9:00am Quilters 1:30 pm Text Study	19 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Confirmation at Trinity 8:00 pm Sr High	20	21	22 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
23 9:00am Worship 9:00am Facebook Live 10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00am Radio Broadcast	24	25 9:00am Quilters 1:30 pm Text Study	26 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Confirmation at Trinity	27	28	

Rohde's Reforming Report

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth – *John 1:1-3, 14*

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. – *Luke 2:15-20*

The gifts have been opened, played with a used. Family has returned home. Work schedules have resumed to normal. The shepherds and wise men of the east have come and gone. The angels have ceased their songs from on high. All of the Christmas goodies have been made and since eaten. The celebration of Jesus' birth has once again come and gone. So, now what?

A new year has begun, but let the words of hope from Elizabeth and Mary's lips continue to ring true in our hearts and in our lives. Elizabeth and Mary, the very first among the faithful followers of Jesus, sang songs of hope about the coming birth of Jesus and all that it meant for them, for their people, and for the whole world. These two women believed in the promises that would yet come, regardless of whether or not they could see or experience them in the moment. Some might even say that is the very definition of faith.

What would it mean for us to have faith like Elizabeth and Mary? What would it look like for us to not only trust, but to lean into the sometimes invisible work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, in the life of the Church, and in the life of the whole world? What would it look like for us to say yes to the ways in which God is calling us to speak, act and move in the world, both as individuals and as a body of faithful congregates? What would it mean for us to believe that Christ is born into the world, not only 2,000 years ago, but living and working within us even today?

Hopeful Epiphany to you all!

PN Rohde

Pastor Nicholas Rohde



KEEP SEEKING HIM



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. 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.**



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. Join us for conversation and community!

Men's Bible Fellowship | Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. in the Gathering Room – Walk through the bible one book at a time, grow in your faith, and develop deep and meaningful relationships. All are welcome.



Our newsletter is available online on our website and also available by email. If you would like to receive the newsletter in one of these formats instead of having it mailed, please contact the office.



Our church council has worked with the congregations in the Kathryn-Nome-Fingal parish to help support their worship and ministry during this period when they are without a pastor. As of January 1, 2025, our pastors are providing pulpit support three Sundays per month plus visitation for members of the parish who are in care facilities. This means that, three Sundays each month, the pastor who preaches at our 9:00 service then drives to Kathryn, Nome, or Fingal to lead worship there at 11:15. We have a six-month trial contract so we can see how this works for everyone involved; since we are blessed with two pastors at OSLC, it's great that we are able to share resources and support each other during this time of transition.



Trinity Lutheran
Church,
Valley City, is
having a Klub
Dinner!

Saturday, February 15th
4:00 to 6:30

What is Klub? It is a traditional Scandinavian potato & ham dumpling made of potatoes, flour & butter.

This free-will offering meal is to raise money for a new boiler heating system at Trinity.

All Are Welcome!

Connect with us:



@OurSaviorsValleyCity



@oursaviorsvcnd

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, and by following us on our social media pages: Facebook, @OurSaviorsValleyCity, and now on Tik-Tok, @oursaviorsvcnd.



Congregational Care

Do you enjoy visiting with people on an individual basis? Are you comfortable at care facilities and in another's home? Do you like to talk....and listen? Not afraid to pray with someone? If you affirm any of these you could be part of a Caring Ministry Team at Our Saviors! This can be a great way you can have a positive impact on, and be Jesus' presence for, someone. Even a faint amount of interest counts. Guidance and training provided. Please contact, or talk with, Pastor Rich.



As you are doing your spring cleaning, remember the WELCA ladies here at Our Savior's will be having their annual Treasure Sale in early May. You can bring items to donate anytime. If you have any questions, please contact LouVay White or Jan Stowman.



Radio broadcast of the 9:00 am worship is on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on KOVC 1490 AM. To sponsor a broadcast, please contact the church office. The cost is \$100 and may be gifted in memory or in honor of someone or a significant event. Your gift to this ministry is appreciated.



Property Manager Position at OSLC After a number of years, Bobby Koeplin has decided to retire, effective Dec.31, 2024. We appreciate his dedicated service to Our Savior's. We are currently searching for a replacement. This position manages OSLC's apartments and parsonages, along with supporting the infrastructure needs of our church home. Bobby has put together an operations manual to guide the new person when they assume this role. Please contact LouVay White, Margaret Dahlberg, or Pastor Nicholas if you would like more information.



MISSIONARY CALENDAR

The 2025 Missionary Calendar is up! For \$25 a day you can support Willie Langdji, who serves as an ELCA Missionary supporting the work of the Lutheran Church in Western Africa. With your support, we 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 ships medical supplies and supports medical facilities all over the globe. Sign up on the calendar and earmark your donation for "Missionary Calendar." Please hold Willie, Global Health Ministries, and our partner church in the Central African Republic in regular prayer.

We are church TOGETHER!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Altar Committee is looking for a couple more volunteers who would set up communion for Sunday worship. This is usually done earlier in the week. Please contact Ruth Nathan for more information or if you can help out.

There is a sign up sheet for Coffee and Fellowship Hosts in the Gathering Room. Hosts are needed for our fellowship times following worship on Sunday mornings. It can be as simple as making sure the coffee is on and running and providing a light treat.



Notes from your Treasurer\$\$

I am sitting at my desk this breezy January afternoon, glad that I'm inside and warm with a cup of tea in front of me. It seems like I was just celebrating New Year's Eve with close friends and now the calendar is showing the last half of January is upon us.

January is my month for the financial audit, year-end reports, budgeting, and looking ahead to our new year in front of us. The audit went fine and the new budget will be in place by the time you receive this newsletter.

What always amazes me is the many ways the people of Our Savior's have committed their time, talents, and generosity to Our Savior's. Ours is not a Sunday-only church. I walk into the church 3-5 times a week, and almost every time I find people working together on projects. You are living proof of our mission statement: **We, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, welcome all to share Christ's love, grow in faith, and to live a life of service glorifying God.** Yes, we are helping others, but just think of what God is doing to our hearts and souls!!

The February calendar says that Giving Hearts Day is officially February 13, but early Giving Hearts Day in 2025 actually began on January 13. You may have your favorite charities, but if you want more information, you can visit givingheartsday.org and check out the Frequently Asked Questions page.

Life on Riverview Drive is always interesting. Charlie Cat has not come back yet, but OS (Orange Streak) our area stray comes in through the doggy door several times a night to check out food and water dishes. He/she stops long enough to stare at me before leaving. I'm not sure if the departing "meows" are a thank you or a good-bye. Snoopy and MacArthur seem to be withholding judgment for now.

Take care and stay warm!

Janet Brown



Our Savior's Foundation Report

The annual meeting of the Our Savior's Foundation was held January 19, 2025. Treasurer Jeff Nathan reviewed the financial statement for 2024 (which is available in the Congregation's 2024 Annual Report). President Derke Kohler provided an overview of activities completed in 2024, to include funding camperships for a number of children to Red Willow Bible Camp and support of several families in crisis. The Foundation Board also revised its mission and fund categories this past year.

The following officers were elected for 2025:

President: Derek Kohler

Vice President: Matt Jorissen

Secretary: Katie Sather

Treasurer: Jeff Nathan

Members of the congregation are encouraged to consider a gift to the Foundation to support continued funding of camperships in the face of rising costs at Red Willow Bible Camp.



OSLC YOUTH

Pre-K - 6th

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School meets each week from 10:00-10:45 am and is open to students Pre-K through 6th grade. Contact Superintendent, Katie Sather, with any questions at oslcsundayschool@outlook.com

January Notes:

Feb 2nd— Jesus Blesses the Children

Feb 9th—Large Group Activity

Feb 16th—NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Feb 23rd—The Good Samaritan

7th - 12th

CONFIRMATION FOR 7th – 9th GRADERS: Class during the month of February will be held from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church. A full calendar for the year can be found on our website oursaviorsvc.org. Make sure you are following through with your worship leadership opportunities and worship note expectations. Be in touch with Pr. Nicholas with questions.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP (10th – 12th Grade): Senior High Youth Group for grades 10th – 12th 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.