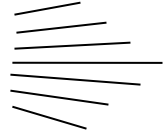




THE

VOICE



The monthly newsletter of Our Savior Lutheran Church
1103 N Broad St., Mankato, MN 56001 **OCTOBER 2024**

Come celebrate the Reformation with us!



Wednesday, October 30th, 6pm

We will be combining Oktoberfest with the
Reformation during the Wednesday Night Meal

Join us for some tasty German food and activities
centered on Martin Luther
and how he changed the church



Contact Info:

Church Office: Phone: 507-385-2180
Fax: 507-345-5113
contact@oslcmandato.org
www.oslcmandato.org
www.facebook.com/oslcmandato

Senior Pastor Office phone: 507-385-2183
Rev. Adam Matheny: matheny@oslcmandato.org
Emergency number: 812-449-6866

Associate Pastor Office phone: 507-385-2185
Rev. John Koopman: pastorjohnkoopman@gmail.com
Emergency number: 712-852-6095

Secretary Office phone: 507-385-2180
Sue Hendrickson: sue@oslcmandato.org

Custodian Cell phone: 507-327-2922
Bob Baker rbaker@oslcmandato.org

Music Coordinator Home phone: 507-341-4173
Suzie Gangi suzie@oslcmandato.org

Office hours are Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 8:00 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Unless there is an activity or event taking place, please use the Broad Street entrance by the mailbox.

In case of emergency or urgent need, our pastor is available at all hours and all days by calling his cell phone. Please use the office phone for other business. Please also remember that Sunday morning and other worship times are not for bringing church business to other members or staff but for focusing upon the Word and gifts of God. "The seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work." - Exodus 20:10

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

-Ephesians 2:8-9

What a gift. What a blessing! What an amazing thing that our God and Father sent His son Jesus into the world to die for the world that sinners might be saved! It should never cease to amaze us that our Lord Jesus lived and died perfectly in order to atone for us and that He ordains to give that salvation to us as a gift. He accomplished all that was required for our eternal life and then He grants that life to us not on the basis of our own acceptability but on the basis of His own generosity and goodness.

This He does, the apostle says, so that no one may boast. The fact of the matter is that there is very little equality between people in this life. Some are better at this than others. Others are more gifted at that than some. Some have more, others have less. This is a good thing. The Lord has given gifts to people variously and we are not all the same. But what St. Paul tells us and we know in the church is that when it comes to the most important thing in life, the forgiveness of sins, all are equal. Absolutely everyone must be given eternal life from the Father if they are to have any hope of getting it. There is simply no way that any person, no matter how skilled, how gifted, how talented they are can earn their eternal life from God. The only way to get it is as a gift from the Lord. And that eliminates all boasting.



Articles for the November 2024 VOICE are due by Friday, October 18th at 4pm.

You may drop-off submissions in the office, or e-mail to: contact@oslcmandato.org.

Celebrating the Reformation

October 31st is known by most of the world as Halloween, and it is that, too. But among us Lutherans we also know it as Reformation Day, the day when we celebrate the Lutheran conservative Reformation and we give thanks to God for preserving us in the faith to this day. Perhaps one of the best ways to celebrate the Reformation is to live it, and one of the best ways to live it is to become like little children and return to the simple words of the catechism.

Martin Luther wrote in the Preface to the Large Catechism: “As for myself, let me say that I am a doctor and a preacher. I am as learned and experienced as any of those who are so presumptuous and confident. Yet I do as a child that is learning the Catechism. I read and repeat in the morning and whenever I have time, the Ten Commandments, Apostle’s Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, the Psalms, etc. I daily read and study the Catechism, and still I am not able to master it as thoroughly as I wish. I must remain a child and a pupil of the Catechism, and this I do very willingly.”

If you haven’t done so in a while (or even if you’ve done so just yesterday), I encourage you to dust off your Small Catechism, perhaps the one you used as a child, and take it up and read it. Read with their explanations the 10 Commandments, Creed, Lord’s Prayer, Baptism, Office of the Keys, Sacrament of the Altar, Prayers, Table of Duties, and the Christian Questions and their Answers this October. Then, follow Luther’s practice, and each day in October recite the Ten Commandments, Apostle’s Creed, and pray the Lord’s Prayer. It will only take you a couple minutes each day, but by doing so the Reformation will be made new for you, and God’s Word will shape you in God’s image.

In the blessed name of Jesus,
Pastor Koopman

**Planning Council Special Meeting
Minutes of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Mankato
July 28, 2024**

Members Present: Dan Gahler, Zak Tess, Valerie Elliott, Doug Haeder, Rob Hobbs, Denise Painter, Judy Hendley, Samantha Tess, Mike Anderson and Pastor Adam Matheny.

Members Absent: Bev Clark, Joel Maunula, Judd Schultz and Missy Schultz.

1. President Dan Gahler called the meeting to order at 8:33 am.
2. Opening Prayer was lead by Pastor Matheny.
3. Deaconess Lisa Brand severance package - Due to Deaconess Brand resignation, the Board of Elders has recommended a severance package of four months of compensation and eligible benefits if the congregation accepts her request for peaceful release. After discussion, motion made and seconded to recommend to the congregation a severance package of four months of compensation and eligible benefits for Deaconess Brand, motion carried.
4. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Elliott, Secretary
OSLC Planning Council

**Planning Council
Minutes of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Mankato
August 13, 2024**

Members Present: Dan Gahler, Doug Haeder, Valerie Elliott, Rob Hobbs, Steve Annis, Denise Painter, Judy Hendley, Judd Schultz, Missy Schultz, Marie Griffin and Pastor Adam Matheny.

Members Absent: Zak Tess, Joel Maunula, and Bev Clark.

1. President Dan Gahler called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. Opening Prayer was lead by Pastor Matheny.
3. Public/congregational Presentation: Presentation by Andrew Bittner on Concordia Classical Academy's matching fund request.
4. Bible Study: Luke 7 led by Pastor Matheny. Next month will be Luke 8.
5. Additions/Approval of the Agenda: Motion made and seconded to amend the agenda to add under New Business item F: Notification to members of church announcements and events and item G: Cross at St John's church (Rapidan), motion carried.
6. Council Minutes: Motion made and seconded to approve the July 28, 2024, Planning Council minutes as presented, motion carried.
7. Pastor's Report: Pastor Matheny reported meeting with groups that Matt or Lisa lead and discussion about Pastor Koopman's relocation.
8. Treasurers Report: Doug Haeder presented the June and July reports, noting the increase interest rate for the mortgage. Motion made and seconded to approve the June and July Treasurer Report as presented, motion carried.
9. Unfinished Business
 - A. Status of Warranty on Organ - Warranty on organ has expired. The recommendation from the Music committee is there is no need to research if an extended warranty is available, organ maintenance and repairs will be taken out of the organ fund. No action taken.
 - B. Update on Call committee progress - Pastor Koopman has accepted the call.
 - C. Thrivent Meeting on October 7th, 6:30pm for Hymnals request - Motion made and seconded to purchase 100 hymnals and two hymnal

accompaniment books using undesignated memorial funds and ask Thrivent to assist with reimbursement of purchase, motion carried. Rob Hobbs will attend the meeting.

10. New Business

- A. Possible motion regarding Concordia Classical Academy (CCA): Motion made and seconded to endorse the \$20,000 per year commitment for CCA for three years subject to congregational approval, motion carried.
- B. Boiler Repair Needs: Steve Annis presented the future boiler repair needs, no action taken.
- C. Narthex A/C Needs: Steve Annis presented the future narthex A/C needs, no action taken.
- D. Discussion upcoming 75th Anniversary of church: President Dan Gahler noted per Minnesota Secretary of State website, the original filing with the county recorder for the formation of the church was March 10, 1950. Discussion occurred about possible ways to celebrate.
- E. Outstanding items regarding Deaconess Brand: Judd Schultz reported District informed of peaceful release and severance package.
- F. Notification to members of church announcements and events: Discussion regarding possible ways to provide notifications, research will be conducted and revisited at a later meeting.
- G. Cross at St. John's church (Rapidan): Steve Annis noted the cross at St. John's was made by a member of Our Savior's and inquired if able to use at Our Savior's. Discussion about possible placement.

11. Board Sharing: Trustees: Installing handrail for the handicap entrance to the Narthex; gutters cleaned. Endowment: Adopt a seminary student renewed; approved scholarship; heard CCA presentation and recommended to presented at Planning Council. Education: Wisdom workshop went well; pool party went well; working on planning for National Youth Gathering;

teachers for every age group, but need second adults. Deacons: Cancelled block party; meals for Wisdom workshop went well; reception for Deaconess Brand went well; Education Sunday is 9/8; Wednesday night meals begin on 9/11. Elders: Moved pews to create more space and finishing call process.

12. Closing Prayer: Closed with the Lord's Prayer.
13. Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm. Next meeting is September 10, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Elliott, Secretary
OSLC Planning Council

**Planning Council
Minutes of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Mankato
September 10, 2024**

Members Present: Dan Gahler, Zak Tess, Doug Haeder, Valerie Elliott, Rob Hobbs, Chris Anderson, Denise Painter, Judy Hendley, Judd Schultz, Rhonda Prince, Joel Maunula and Pastor Adam Matheny.

Members Absent: Missy Schultz and Bev Clark.

1. President Dan Gahler called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.
2. Opening Prayer was lead by Pastor Matheny.
3. Public/congregational Presentation: President Dan Gahler read a letter from Trudy Wiechmann regarding LWML and SAGES ministries.
4. Bible Study: Luke 8 led by Zak Tess. Next month will be Luke 9.
5. Additions/Approval of the Agenda: Motion made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented, motion carried.

6. Council Minutes: Motion made and seconded to approve the August 13, 2024, Planning Council minutes as presented, motion carried.
7. Pastor's Report: Pastor Matheny noted Wednesday night activities start September 11th.
8. Treasurers Report: Doug Haeder presented the August report, noting the deficit for the month. Motion made and seconded to approve the August Treasurer Report as presented, motion carried.
9. Unfinished Business
 - A. Thrivent meeting, October 7th for Hymnals: President Dan Gahler stated a donor come forward to cover the costs of the hymnals and hymnal accompaniment books.
 - B. Update on Concordia Classical Academy matching request: President Dan Gahler will work with Andrew Bittner on providing information to congregation before the November Voters' meeting.
 - C. Update on Discussion upcoming 75th Anniversary of church: Announcement will be made looking for volunteers to be involved in planning celebration.
 - D. Update on Notification to members of church announcements and events: Valerie presented information, including software product from Concordia Technology Solutions. We will reach out to other churches in the circuit regarding what software they use.
10. New Business
 - A. Status of Pastor Koopman's move/installation: Installation will occur on September 14th at 4:00pm, followed by meal. Motion made and seconded to approve use of undesignated memorial funds to cover costs of meal and request at the October 7th Thrivent meeting for reimbursement, motion carried. Pastor noted arrangements made for moving the Koopman family on September 11th and September 12th.
 - B. Discuss date of November Voters' Meeting: Meeting will be November 24, 2024.

- C. Nomination for November Voters' Meeting: The spreadsheet noting officers and board members terms was reviewed.
11. Board Sharing: Trustees: Received reduction in insurance premium; working on sump pumps; and will need to replace boilers next year. Endowment: Scholarships awarded. Education: Sunday school started September 8th and National Youth Gathering meeting September 15th. Deacons: New sign up boards for Sunday morning donuts and Wednesday night meals. Elders: Completing process for bringing Pastor Koopman on staff and Ambassador for Reconciliation next class starts at the end of September, "Coaching People to Reconcile."
12. Closing Prayer: Closed with the Lord's Prayer.
13. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. Next meeting is October 8, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Elliott, Secretary
OSLC Planning Council

Special Voters' Meeting
Our Savior Lutheran Church of Mankato
1103 North Broad St, Mankato, MN 56001
June 30, 2024 Attendance: 58

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 11:45 am by President Dan Gahler.
2. Opening Prayer: Lead by Pastor Adam Matheny.
3. Presentation of 3 Pastoral Candidates: Judd Schultz provided an overview of the call process. Judd lead the presentation of three (3) pastoral candidates, Rev. Alexander Blacken, Rev. John Koopman and Rev Erik Sorenson, which was followed by questions and discussion from the congregations.

4. Call Recommendation by Call Committee: The Call Committee recommended calling Rev. Alexander Blacken. Motion made and seconded to extend a call to Rev Alexander Blacken, motion carried by unanimous vote.
5. Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer.
6. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Elliott, Secretary
OSLC Planning Council

Special Voters' Meeting
Our Savior Lutheran Church of Mankato
1103 North Broad St, Mankato, MN 56001
July 21, 2024 Attendance: 51

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 11:45 am by President Dan Gahler.
2. Opening Prayer: Lead by Pastor Adam Matheny.
3. Presentation of 4 Pastoral Candidates: Judd lead the presentation of three (4) pastoral candidates, Rev. John Koopman, Rev Erik Sorenson, Rev Joshua Reber and Rev Lucas Booher.
4. Call Recommendation by Call Committee: The Call Committee recommended calling Rev. John Koopman. Discussion from congregation regarding the process of discerning recommendation. Motion made and seconded to extend a call to Rev John Koopman, motion carried by unanimous vote.
5. Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer.
6. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 12:33 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Elliott, Secretary
OSLC Planning Council

Special Voters' Meeting
Our Savior Lutheran Church of Mankato
1103 North Broad St, Mankato, MN 56001
August 4, 2024 Attendance: 53

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 11:45 am by President Dan Gahler.
2. Opening Prayer: Lead by Pastor Adam Matheny.
3. Request a motion to accept Lisa Brand's request for a Peaceful release: Discussion from congregation regarding request. Motion made and seconded to accept Lisa Brand's request for a Peaceful release, motion carried. Pastor Matheny noted if congregation has any further questions to speak with church leadership.
4. Discussion of Recommended Severance for Lisa Brand: Questions and discussion from congregation regarding severance. Motion made and seconded to provide a severance of four (4) months of compensation and eligible benefits, motion carried.
5. Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer.
6. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 12:09 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Elliott, Secretary
OSLC Planning Council

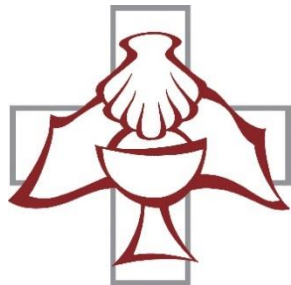
BAPTISM

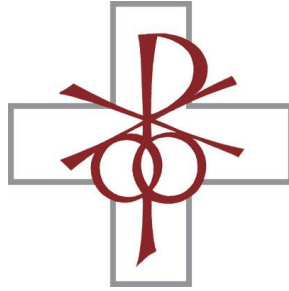
Ezra Lawrence Bless

Born: August 7, 2024

Baptized: September 1, 2024

Parents: Michael & Karee Bless



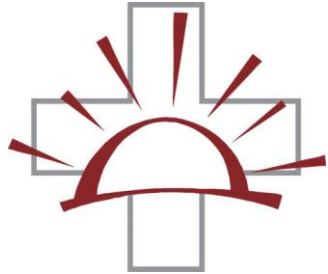


WEDDING

**Marja Hope Bjornstad &
Brian John Gordon Quiram**
August 24, 2024

IN MEMORIAM

Marcella "Sally" Emile Ulman
August 10, 1925 ~ August 21, 2024



Accessions & Losses

Losses:

Matthew & Robyn James, Hosanna Lutheran Church,
LCMS; September 4, 2024

Alex James, Hosanna Lutheran Church, LCMS; September
4, 2024

Treasurer's Report Commentary Period Ending August 31, 2024

Income and Expense Summary

	Current Month	Y-T-D
Income	\$41,595.31	\$366,005.86
Operating Expenses	-\$43,129.86	-\$389,453.05
LCEF Mortgage Principal Payment	-\$872.49	-\$14,190.06
Net for Period[†]	-\$2,407.04	-\$37,637.25

[†]Positive net value indicates we received more than our expenses, a negative number indicates that we have spent more than we have received for that period (deficit).

Cash Summary

	Amount	Notes
Checking Account	\$8,635.01	Daily checking account Pioneer Bank
Savings Account	\$206,061.05	Interest Savings account Pioneer Bank
Joyful Response	\$6,322.93	Joyful Response deposits and loan payments
Library Fund	\$20,107.12	Certificate of Deposit
Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	
Total Cash Assets	\$241,126.11	
Dedicated Accounts	-\$166,245.27	Amount of our cash balance designated for specific activities
Other Liabilities	-\$5,529.51	Accruals for HSA pmts, youth, etc.
Available Cash Balance	\$69,351.33	\$71,758.37 last month

Long Term Debt (LCEF Mortgage)

Current Balance	\$206,825.19
Monthly Payment	\$1,845.99
Interest Rate (Variable Annually)	5.625% (Aug. 2024-Jul 2025)
Pay-off Date (Pay-off Amount)	7/2036 (\$30,556.92)

Additional Comments: Trend is toward a greater deficit YTD.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Haeder, Treasurer

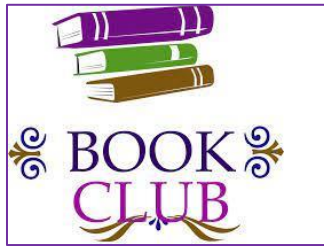
Volunteer Opportunity

A Congregational Treasurer will need to be elected in November for a two year term beginning January 2025. An individual may serve a maximum of 2 two year terms as Treasurer. This work involves accounting for the expenditure of money from the treasury, approval of payroll, and compiling an annual budget for congregational approval, based on proposed budget figures submitted by the Boards of Deacons, Education, Elders and Trustees. If you are interested in serving the congregation as Treasurer, or if you know someone who may be interested, or if you have questions about this, please call Doug Haeder at (952)374-9667.



2025 LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans

There's still time to sign up! This opportunity is for all youth who will be 14 by the date of the gathering (or entering 9th grade) and are not yet 21 by that date. The LCMS Youth Gathering is July 19, 2025 – July 23, 2025 in New Orleans. Our next meeting will be on October 13th at 11:30 (after 2nd service). Lunch will be included. We will be finalizing our registration. Please bring the youth participation form (I have extras if needed) and your \$100.00 deposit. If you have any questions please contact Rhonda Prince 507-521-0690.



The Our Savior's book club meets from 4:30-6 in the fireplace room on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. We read good books and then discuss them together from our shared Lutheran perspective. In October we will begin a new book! Watch the bulletin for more information. If you have questions or interest in this please speak with Pastor Matheny.

Sunday School Updates

Memory Challenge!

Keep on memorizing your Bible passages! Prizes await and the pastors hope to treat all of you to a tasty meal.

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, October 20th: 3rd – Youth grades will not have their normal Sunday School classes and Youth Study. Instead, they are invited to join the large group Bible study led by the Pastor in the Fellowship Hall. Age 3 – 2nd Grade Sunday School please meet in your classrooms, not the sanctuary, for that morning.

Sunday, October 27th: 4th – 6th graders will be serving breakfast. Look for more information to come in your e-mail soon.

Sunday, October 27th: Sunday School students will join the Adult Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall for a study focusing on the Reformation.

Bible Study Circles

Study the Biblical Truths of God's People – Jesus Loves You.

The Fall Quarterly theme is *The LORD is Near*. “When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the broken-hearted and saves the crushed in spirit.” Psalm 34:17-18.

Bible Studies for October, November, and December are 1) A Reason to Celebrate; 2) The Lord, my Helper, Keep me; 3) Christ's steadfastness: The Apostle's Creed – Second Article.

Ruth/Lydia Bible Study Circle meets on October 3rd, Thursday at 9:30. Fellowship with morning treat. Then 9:45am Bible Study: A Reason to Celebrate. (October is Reformation Month so bring topics to share – and also ideas for Our Savior 75 years next year.) The closing hymn #738, “Lord of all Hopefulness.”

Mary Circle Bible Study will meet Friday, October 18th at 1:30pm in the Fireplace room. Our study will be “A Reason to Celebrate” on page 17 of the Fall *Quarterly*. Hostess: Gwen Cattrysse, phone 507-340-4991. Guests and visitors are welcome.

Potluck Dinner & Bible Study

There will be no pot-luck Bible study in October. Please speak with Pastor Matheny for more information.



Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. Psalm 95:2

Rehearsals are off to a great start! If you'd like to join us, it's not too late. Check the calendar for the Wednesday rehearsal times.

October Worship Music Schedule:

October 6: Vocal Choir

October 13: Intro Choir

October 27: Vocal Choir

We have many openings for special music. Maybe it doesn't work for you to join a group, but we'd still love to have you participate if you are able, whether as a solo or part of a small group. Need help finding a small group? Please talk to Suzie Gangi. 507-341-4173 or suzie@oslcmandato.org



Monthly Open Gym & Game Night

We will have an open gym and game night the first Sunday of each month from 6 - 8pm. This is for all ages and will involve a short devotion. Our first night will be Sunday, October 6th. Please bring games (board games/card games) to play. Use the back parking lot/door.

Please note: this is not a drop off event, children 6th grade and younger must be accompanied by an adult.



QUILTING

MONDAYS, OCTOBER 14TH & 28TH

Quilting meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays each month, September through May. Join us in the Quilting Room #124/126 from 9am to noon to sew tops, middles, and backs together and then tie. No experience is necessary. Come enjoy good fellowship while we work.

Thank you to all who have donated materials. If you would like to donate cotton material or sheets, please bring them to the Mission Center.

Contact Julie with any questions, 507-388-7533.

YOUTH

activities

Grades 7 – 12

Join us for a campfire at the Anderson home (19353 584th Lane, Mankato) October 27th from 6 – 8pm. The youth will have a devotion, play games, and roast s'mores and hot dogs. Parents are invited to stay, but not required. There will be a second fire pit just for you!



Ladies of Our Savior

Lutheran Women in Mission

www.mnslwml.org

Reformation Day is October 31st. You may want to learn more about it from books in the Library.

Fall Quarterly – WOM, Women On a Mission are in the Narthex. October 2024 District E-News from MN South is on-line at www.mnslwml.org.

Lutheran Women in Mission invites you to the **41st Biennial Convention**, Thursday, June 26 to Sunday, June 29, 2025, in Omaha, Nebraska. Convention Theme: Growing in God's Grace. Scripture Verse: But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (2 Peter 3:18)

October 1st, Sunday was traditionally LWML Sunday. We now celebrate it any time of the year. The 2024 theme is: Ready to Serve. And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her. Luke 1:38

Ladies and Men, the Lutherans for Life news is in Life Date for you, also available on www.lifeneews.com. The March for Life will be in January in Washington, D.C.

Ladies Advent Event will be Thursday, December 5th at 4:30. More information will be in the November Voice.

Your smiles and laughter and welcoming at our services brings the warmth and joy of Jesus to visitors. Comments have been made by visitors for how welcome they were. Thanks be to God.

For your information the Our Savior LWML is in the MN South District, in the Crow River Conference, and the Arlington Zone.

Proclaiming Christ 2024: Let us Sing of Jesus. St. James Ev. Lutheran Church (460 Annapolis St. W., West St. Paul) invites you to a conference celebrating 500 years of the first Lutheran hymnals and the Lutheran chorale. It will be held on October 25-26, 2024. A special choir is being convened for the hymn festival. Singers from partner churches, schools, and the community are invited to join.



Operation Christmas Child

Kijabe hospital in Kenya recently opened new doors for ministry through Operation Christmas Child as more than 90 children received

shoebox gifts and heard the Good News.

The boys and girls were told, “Yesu Anakupenda!” That’s Swahili for “Jesus loves you!” They heard the Gospel and received a shoebox. Many also grow in faith through the follow-up discipleship course.

YOU can be a part of blessing children and their families with the Gospel by packing a shoebox or donating single items. Please see the display in the Narthex for a list and donation tubs. Praise God that millions have received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior as OCC is at work in more than 100 countries. Thank you – God Bless.

Mission Service

Mission Service will meet on October 16th at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be putting together the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child (Samaritans Purse) from the donations received. Please see the display in the Narthex for a list of needed items, or take a shoebox to fill on your own. Thank you!

Ablelight – Developmental Disabilities (Bethesda)
www.ablelight.org

Orphan Grain Train – Donations welcome. www.ogt.org

POBLO – People of the Book Lutheran Outreach Ministries.
Remember them in prayer.

The District Website is: www.mnsdistrict.org for all the district information.

E-News Flash from Most Ministries: Ways to be involved – Praying & planning a special evening to learn about MOST Ministries. Teams going to do VBS, Nursing and Eye Glasses to Belize and Honduras. In 2025 going to India, January 17 -28 and Belize on February 13-22. Please bring your old eyeglasses and cases to the Mission Center. Thank you.



Young at Heart / S.A.G.E.S.

Young at Heart is Our Savior older adult ministry and

Saints Alive Growing Ever Serving

(S.A.G.E.S.) is the District older adult ministry (50+)

LHM Lutheran Hour Ministries

LLL Lutheran Layman's League



S.A.G.E.S.



(S.A.G.E.S. = Saints Alive, Growing, Ever Serving)

S.A.G.E.S. Board meeting on October 1, 2024 by Zoom from 10-noon.

Sagacity – S.A.G.E.S. quarterly newsletter, Sagacity is available at the district website: www.mnsdistrict.org

A Great Need! Volunteer from each congregation to be a contact for S.A.G.E.S. Is it I Lord?
Also needed – a representative for several Circuit vacancies. Volunteer by contacting President James Vehling.

New Lutheran Witness: Mn South Supplement for October is available at the district website: www.mnsdistrict.org

State Bible Bowl 2025 – The Life of David, 1 Samuel 16 – 1 Kings 2 (ESV). April 5, 2025 at Concordia University, St. Paul. Contact Rev. Rudy Mauer (rudymaurer@aol.com) or for more information go to the MN State Bible Bowl website at www.mnbiblebowl.org

Rose Parade Petal Pushers- Building off the parade theme of *Best Day Ever!* The 2025 Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) float entry is titled “Behold! Jesus the Savior is Born” and marks the 74th time the ministry has been part of the parade. As the only Christian float in the Rose Parade, the LHM float

carries on a mission of providing a Gospel witness to viewers everywhere, from along the parade route to televisions worldwide. The coloring pages for the coloring competition and the directions, will be in the Mission Center for our children. **Entries MUST be postmarked by Nov. 1, 2024. Be sure all the information lines on the bottom of the page are filled in. Entries become the property of Petal Pushers and cannot be returned.

One Voice for Public Policy: Get your copy at

www.mnsdistrict.org

Public Policy Advocates: Rev. Fred Hinz

(fred.hinz@mnsdistrict.org) and Rev. Scot Missling

(pastorstpaullcms@gmail.com)

Get the Podcast: As you serve where you are, take time to get ideas and encouragement from others serving at other places. Podcast: *God's Mission Here*. KFUE Radio –

<https://www.kfuo.org>

www.lhm.org ● www.mnsdistrict.org/sages



Watch Our Savior's Sunday Worship

Our Savior's Sunday 8am and 10:30am (summer at 9am) worship is livestreamed. Go to: www.oslcmankato.org and click on the "Livestreaming & Videos" menu item. From there you can go directly to YouTube to watch the service, view the Order of Service, and keep up with church activities in the Bulletin Announcements.



No prayer shawls were given out this month; but, if anyone would like to knit or crochet a prayer shawl, call Marcella at 507-317-4127.

Also, anyone needing a prayer shawl for comfort, please call.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Are you contributing to Our Savior Lutheran Church through your Thrivent Choice Dollars? Please join us in the fellowship hall Monday, October 7th at 6:30pm for a meeting to discuss and decide how your contributions will be used at Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Attention Members of OSLC: It's that time again to start thinking about potential special projects that are not included in the church budget. Please submit any projects and/or ideas to the church office before Friday, October 4th to be considered by the Thrivent members at the October 7th meeting.

Feel free to contact Brian Johnson at 507-779-4264 with any questions.



Mites

Lutheran Women in Mission

LWML Mites for Missions

Children and adults, new Mite box for you in the Narthex. Bring Mites from home and put in the big box at church on Mite Sunday, October 20th.

October Focus: Grant #20 – Sharing Christ with women and children in Kazakhstan, Lutheran Hour Ministries, \$100,000
Grant #22 – Expanding Gospel Outreach to Hispanics in U.S., Lutheran Hour Ministries, \$100,000. This grant will be used for direct outreach in local churches, holistic ministry, digital outreach through Thred.asia, and printed Christian resources to reach the unchurched in Kazakhstan where the proclamation of the Gospel is difficult due to harassment by non-Christian religious authorities and unbelieving family members. “We are fighting both physical and spiritual poverty,” says Rev. Peter Kirby. To learn more, visit: www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-20

Each month we have a Mission Gift Project. More info in Bulletin.

Thirteen District Mission Mite Grants for 2024-2025 for \$270,000.

September to Remember on September 10th was Mission Mites donations. Yes, \$36,098 was donated on the 10th.



From the Stewardship Committee: “*The Singing Church*”

Lutherans have historically been called “the singing church.” There is no doubt that music has been a major component in the theology and practice of the Lutheran church. Luther once remarked about music, “We can mention only one point, namely, that next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise.”¹ Music has a power and purpose that cannot be understated in our worship and the life of the congregation.

But music does more than touch the emotions. Music is a vehicle that carries both the musician and the hearer deeper into connection with the truth of the Scriptures. This is true of the most complex Bach chorale and even the simplest of songs like “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know.” Each musical selection within the church shapes the thoughts, minds and faith of the people who experience them. This is also true of stewardship hymns. We are currently considering the verses of “Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness” (*LSB* 788) as it shapes our understanding and practice of stewardship. This month we take a deeper dive into verse two:

Teach us to thank you, Lord, for love and grace
For life and vision, for a purpose clear,
For Christ Your Son, and for each human face
that shows Your message ever new and near.

The stanza begins by touching on the truth of the Law. Thankfulness is not a natural posture for fallen humanity. For sinners curved in upon themselves, thankfulness for love and grace is something that must be taught. We are those who hoard and clutch. Our confession

¹ Martin Luther, “Preface to Georg Rhau’s *Symphoniae iucundae*,” in *Luther’s Works*, ed. Jaroslav Pelikan, Helmut T. Lehmann, and Christopher Boyd Brown, vol. 53 (Philadelphia and St. Louis: Fortress and Concordia Publishing House, 1955–), 321–322.

of our shallow thankfulness highlights the need for us to learn thankfulness to God.

Thankfulness also points to what we are stewards of: love and grace! All the things we have traditionally called stewardship aren't actual stewardship. Rather, what matters is how we steward the one, true and only treasure: the love and grace of God revealed to us in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. So, all stewardship is stewardship of the Gospel! How can we gaze at the cross and empty tomb and not be thankful?

The LCMS defines stewardship as “the free and joyous activity of God’s family — the church — in managing life’s resources for His purposes.” God’s love and mercy give us a clear purpose as we live out our Baptism and practice this joyous stewardship. All we are, all we have entrusted to us, and all we are called to do is to connect others with the love and mercy of God revealed in Jesus!

The faithful steward sings with lips and life of this love and mercy that is ever new and near. In the Scriptures. In the Lord’s House. At the Lord’s Table. This is where our stewardship song starts and ends. Our family, our co-workers and classmates, and our world need to hear this song!

One Voice for Public Policy

The Public Policy Advocate for Minnesota South District is Fred Hinz. Contact him with your questions at: fred.hinz@mnsdistrict.org or 507-317-9634.

Read the latest article “Something Political We Can ALL Support?!” at: <https://www.mnsdistrict.org/public-policy>. You can also get reading recommendations and sign-up to receive Minnesota public policy news and updates.



“To God, all life is sacred because He created it. With their faith, the great multitude will stand before the Lamb on Judgment Day, just as we will. So, to us who follow Jesus, we must continue to uphold the sanctity of life for each person, no matter the nation, language, or their political stance.”

Diane Albers, President of Lutherans for Life

A Life Quote from Lutherans for Life ~

www.lutheransforlife.org

2024 Theological Convocations

9am – noon

Lunch to follow

Friday, October 18th ~ *Office of the Ministry & Routes to Ordination, hosted at Trinity, Rochester*

Friday, October 25 ~ *Theology of the Practice of the Lord's Supper, hosted at St. Paul's, Fulda*

Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford is facilitating the convocations, which are sponsored by the Minnesota South District. Two speakers from the MNS will present perspectives and responses on each topic.

Pastors, lay people, and the general public are invited. Lunch is provided. There is no charge, but please register to have a count for materials and lunch preparation. Register at: <https://www.mnsdistrict.org/theological-convocations-2024> or use the QR code.



SUNDAY MATINS

Perhaps you've heard our radio broadcast on Sundays at 9am. Each week the pastor records the Sunday sermon or another message for broadcast on KTOE, 1420 AM.

If you would like to sponsor this weekly broadcast for a week, or a month, or more, please contact the church office (507-385-2180, contact@oslcmankato.org) to reserve your Sunday. What a great way to remember a loved one who has passed or celebrate a special occasion – anniversary, birthday, birth of a child or grandchild, by sharing the Gospel with the community. The cost for each Sunday is \$14.

Electronic Giving

Our Savior's is pleased to offer the following E-giving options to have your church offering automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings account. All options offer easy, convenient one-time or recurring gifts.

- **Joyful Response® Electronic Offering Program**
Complete the form on the adjacent page (also available on our web-site) and attach a voided check or savings deposit slip and turn in to the church office.
- **Give+ Online** Go to the church web-site, www.oslcmankato.org, on the home page click on the "Contribute Online" button. Or, scan the QR code to go directly to our giving page.
- **Give+ Mobile** Download "GivePlus Church" at the App Store or Google Play Store on your smart phone or tablet to get started.



Joyful Response[®] Electronic Offering Program

Enrollment/Change Form

Complete this form and return it to the church office to begin or change your current stewardship offering. Your offering will be made automatically from your bank account or your LCEF StewardAccount[®].

Check the appropriate box:

- New enrollment Offering change Account information change

Please Print in Black Ink

Member Last Name	First Name	MI	Daytime Telephone
Mailing Address		City, State, ZIP	Email Address

Congregation Name	Congregation Telephone Number
Our Savior Lutheran Church	507-385-2180

Congregation Mailing Address	City, State, ZIP
1103 N. Broad Street	Mankato, MN 56001

My Offering

Fund Designations:	Amount:
1. General Fund _____	\$ _____
2. Building _____	\$ _____
3. Organ Fund _____	\$ _____
4. _____	\$ _____
5. _____	\$ _____
6. _____	\$ _____
	TOTAL \$ _____

Debiting Account

Debit from:

- Checking
 Savings
 LCEF StewardAccount

Account Number _____

Routing Number (First nine numbers
in bottom left-hand corner of check)

Transfer Date (check one):

- Weekly (Monday)
 Semi-monthly (1st and 15th)
 Monthly on the 1st
 Monthly on the 15th
 Other _____
(As approved by church office.)

Start date: ____/____/____

End date (if any): ____/____/____

Authorization

I authorize the above-named organization to process debit entries from my account. This authority will remain in effect until I give reasonable notification to terminate this authorization or until the last specified payment date.

Authorized Signature for Account _____

Date _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY CHURCH OFFICE

Member ID# _____ Initials _____
Vanco Client ID# _____ Date _____

Attach void check
or savings deposit
slip here.

The Voice
Our Savior Lutheran Church
1103 N Broad Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Mankato, MN
Permit No. 216

THANK YOU ALL CONTRIBUTORS

Marion Brunz
Marcella Eiders
Karen Fischer
Mel Hendrickson
Rhonda Rastedt
Julie Schlichting
Dianne Schmidt
Bernice Wilson

October 2024

Address Service Requested

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October 2024

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Mankato, Minnesota

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>29</p> <p>Sunday Matins is aired at 9:00am each Sunday on KTOE 1420AM View Our Savior's service on YouTube, channel oslcmankato, livestreamed or any time at your convenience.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8:30 Circuit Pastors 10:00 S.A.G.E.S. Zoom Meeting 5:15 Board of Education 5:30 Board of Trustees 6:00 Board of Elders 6:30 Board of Deacons</p>	<p>2</p> <p>4:45 Introductory Choir 5:15 Introductory Bells 5:30 Brass 5:45 Handbell Choir 6:00 Meal 6:45 Devotion 7:00 Junior Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 Private Confession 9:30 Ruth/Lydia Circle 10:00 Bulletin Deadline</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service 6:00 Open Gym Night</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 Thrivent Choice Dollars Meeting Fall Pastor's Conference</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study 6:30 Planning Council</p>	<p>9</p> <p>4:45 Introductory Choir 5:15 Introductory Bells 5:30 Brass 5:45 Handbell Choir 6:00 Meal 6:45 Devotion 7:00 Junior Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir <i>Pastor Matheny Vacation</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p>8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service 11:30 NYG Meeting 4:30 Book Club <i>Pastor Matheny Vacation</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 Quilting 7:00 Altar Guild</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>4:00 Mission Service 4:45 Introductory Choir 5:15 Introductory Bells 5:30 Brass 5:45 Handbell Choir 6:00 Meal 6:45 Devotion 7:00 Junior Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 Stephen Ministers</p>	<p>18</p> <p>1:30 Mary Circle Bible Study 4:00 The Voice Deadline</p>	<p>19</p>
<p><i>Mite Sunday</i></p> <p>20</p> <p>9:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Sunday School 9:25 Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service <i>Pastor Matheny Vacation</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 Early Bird Bible Study</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>4:45 Introductory Choir 5:15 Introductory Bells 5:30 Brass 5:45 Handbell Choir 6:00 Meal 6:45 Devotion 7:00 Junior Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 5:30 Potluck Meal/Bible Study</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>8:00 Divine Service 9:00 Coffee Time 9:25 Combined Sunday School & Bible Class 10:30 Divine Service 4:30 Book Club 6:00 Youth Campfire @ Anderson's</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:30 Early Bird Bible Study 9:00 Quilting</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting</p>	<p>30</p> <p>1:30 Endowment Board 4:45 Introductory Choir 5:15 Introductory Bells 5:30 Brass 6:00 Meal-Reformation Event 6:45 Devotion 7:00 Junior Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir</p>	<p>Reformation Day 31</p> <p>9:00 Private Confession 10:00 Bulletin Deadline</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>

Staff

Senior Pastor Rev. Adam M. Matheny Office: 507-385-2183 Cell: 812-449-6866	Associate Pastor Rev. John H. Koopman Office: 507-385-2185 Cell: 712-852-6095	Music Coordinator Suzie Gangi Home: 507-341-4173	Secretary Sue Hendrickson Office: 507-385-2180 Home: 507-388-3557	Custodian Bob Baker 507-327-2922
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Congregational Officers and Elected Board Members

President Dan Gahler 507-995-3634	Vice President Zak Tess 920-265-8436	Secretary Valerie Elliott 785-202-0166	Treasurer Doug Haeder 952-374-9667	Financial Secretary Bev Clark 507-380-9492			
Council Members at Large		Board of Elders		Board of Trustees		Board of Education	
Judy Hendley	507-317-7060	Judd Schultz-Chair	507-317-9932	Steve Annis	507-278-3093	Samantha Tess - Chair	507-217-0354
Missy Schultz	507-514-2553	Mike Holub	507-340-1222	Matt Williams	507-995-0350	Marie Griffin	507-625-7971
Joel Maunula	320-296-0954	Mike Blomquist	507-351-5051	Kurt Anderson	507-381-9537	Rhonda Prince	507-521-0690
Vacant		Lon Whitehead	507-388-4891	Bruce Anderson	507-327-8559	Jeff Elliott	785-202-1170
Board of Endowment Fund		Randy Burmeister	507-720-6985	Steve Dumke	507-388-1297	Kathy Krumwiede	507-236-6852
Gretchen Zellmer	507-387-6939	Tom Benson	507-345-1015	Chris Anderson	507-382-9450	Bev Annis	507-278-3093
Garvin Eichhorst - Treasurer	507-388-9227	Mike Anderson	507-401-1282			Board of Deacons	
Rob Hobbs-Chair	507-243-3232	Gaylen Lenz	507-317-4269			Carrie Anderson-Secretary	507-469-8619
Mel Hendrickson - Vice Chair	507-388-3557	Vacant				Denise Painter - Chair	507-380-0507
Judy Mensing - Secretary	507-387-4908	Vacant				Lindsey Marso	507-382-6168
Dave Kroells	507-345-4423	Vacant				Kathy Taylor	507-317-1555
Thad Simpson	507-382-1683	Vacant				Vicky Senne	507-625-1147
						Terrin Boozikee	952-412-1762