



OUR SAVIOR'S NEWS

Guiding members and friends in faith and service with God's enduring love.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

No SS on March 8th,
SS sings in Worship
on March 29th

CONTACT US

(701) 845-1328
oursaviorsvc@outlook.com
www.oursaviorsvc.org
138 3rd Street NW
Valley City, ND 58072

BUILDING HOURS

Mon, Thur, Fri: 9 - 1
Tues, Weds: 9 - 4:30
Sunday: 8 - noon

Wednesdays in Lent

Meal at 5:30pm Downstairs
Worship at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary



March 4 - Pr. Bryce Blank

(from Epworth UMC)

Theme: Longing for Mystery

Lesson: John 3:1-17

March 11 - Pr. Nicholas Rhode

(from KNF Parish)

Theme: Longing for Wholeness

Lesson: Matthew 4:1-11

March 18 - Pr. Diane Krumm

(from Trintiy Lutheran)

Theme: Longing for Community

Lesson: John 9:1-41

March 25 - Pr. Jamie Desi

(from Faith Lutheran)

Theme: Longing for Authenticity

Lesson: John 11:1-45



Worship Schedule for

Holy Week

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 29

Sunday School Sings in Worship - 9am

Youth Breakfast & Pastor and Friends

Variety Show - 10am

Maundy Thursday, April 2

Worship with First Communion - 6:30pm

Good Friday, April 3

Worship at Noon and 6:30pm

Easter, April 5

Worship at 9am and 11am

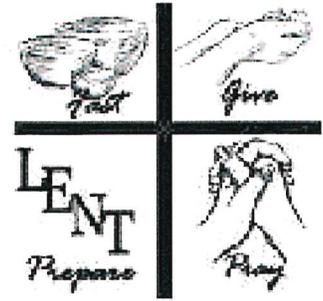
Brunch from 10am-11am



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.

FROM THE PASTOR - A Simple Way to Pray

We are already into our Lent journey. Did you give anything up or take on a spiritual practice for Lent? Pastors often encourage participants in their congregations to deepen their spiritual practices during the season of Lent. Historically the practices of fasting, praying, and alms giving (both financial gifts and acts of service) have been emphasized. This reflects Matthew’s account of Jesus’ teaching in the sermon on the mount (cf. Matthew 6:1-18).



As a young person, I would often focus on giving up things (fasting) for Lent. Many times, I give up soda or chocolate. One year, as a young adult, I gave up red meat and another year I took up the practice of giving charitably. I don’t recall focusing my Lenten discipline on prayer, though I tried unsuccessfully to keep a prayer journal. Perhaps you, like me, find the practice of praying elusive or daunting. Especially, when we hear people quote St. Paul’s encouragement to the Thessalonians, “Rejoice always and pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). We might be thinking, “uh huh, right?! How are we going to do that?” Prayer should become something natural like breathing, too often it is not. I have found in myself a longing for a more fulfilling prayer life. So, I offer to you a way to pray that I gleaned from Martin Luther. One of Luther’s writings which has been saved through the generations and collected into a catalog of his writings is this little teaching about the spiritual discipline of prayer that Martin Luther provides to his barber, Peter. Luther uses the example of meditating and praying the Ten Commandments in four steps to help Peter learn and practice an active prayer life.

“I think of each commandment as, first, instruction, which is really what it is intended to be, and consider what the Lord God demands of me so earnestly. Second, I turn it into a thanksgiving; third, a confession; and fourth, a prayer. I do so in thoughts or words such as these: “I am the Lord your God, etc. You shall have no other gods before me,” etc. Here I earnestly consider that God expects and teaches me to trust him sincerely in all things and that it is his most earnest purpose to be my God. . .

Second, I give thanks for his infinite compassion by which he has come to me in such a fatherly way and, unasked, unbidden, and unmerited, has offered to be my God, to care for me, and to be my comfort, guardian, help, and strength in every time of need. We poor mortals have sought so many gods and would have to seek them still if he did not enable us to hear him openly tell us in our own language that he intends to be our God. How could we ever—in all eternity—thank him enough!

Third, I confess and acknowledge my great sin and ingratitude for having so shamefully despised such sublime teachings and such a precious gift throughout my whole life, and for having fearfully provoked his wrath by countless acts of idolatry. I repent of these and ask for his grace.

Pastor Jared Carson

Intentional Interim Pastor
pastor.oursaviorsvc@outlook.com
 218-422-6461

A Simple Way to Pray (continued)

Fourth, I pray and say: "O my God and Lord, help me by thy grace to learn and understand thy commandments more fully every day and to live by them in sincere confidence. Preserve my heart so that I shall never again become forgetful and ungrateful, that I may never seek after other gods or other consolation on earth or in any creature, but cling truly and solely to thee, my only God. Amen, dear Lord God and Father. Amen" (Luther's Works 43:200)

There are many ways to pray, but this seems like a pretty good model to me. Start with the Ten Commandments, the Apostle's Creed, Lord's Prayer, or a scripture passage. It is the repeated practice of prayer that will strengthen the prayer muscle in us.

For Lent, I'll be using this simple way to pray, offered by Luther. I invite you to join me in taking seriously the call to fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Choose a spiritual practice and take note of how the Holy Spirit is using this discipline to shape and transform your life and witness. Our journey in faith becomes meaningful when it is shared, drop me a note (pastor.oursaviorsvc@outlook.com) or share your journey with family and friends or on social media. Blessings as we continue our 40-day journey!

Faithfully Yours,
Pr. Jared Carson



Community Lenten Meals each Wednesday at 5:30 pm! Different ministry groups will host each week, offering delicious food and good fellowship. These midweek gatherings are a wonderful way to pause, reconnect, and share life together during this Lenten season.

And remember Pr. Jared's axiom: "Eating at church means, No Dishes at home!"

Most importantly—no one should be alone. Invite a friend, neighbor, coworker, or someone new to town to join us. There's always room at the table.

First Communion Class

Pastor Jared will be holding a First Communion Class for youth and adults who are interested in learning about the Sacrament of Holy Communion. RSVPs Appreciated, parents are encouraged to participate with their children.

Sunday 3/29 - 11:00am

First Communion Class

Tuesday - 3/31 - 5:30pm

Bread Baking

"First Communion" in Worship
on **Maundy Thursday - 4/2 - 6:30pm**





Scout Sunday Success

Scout Sunday at OSLC was a success! We had Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, and adult leaders represented in worship on Sunday, February 15.

Pastor and Friends Variety Show

Dust off that hidden (or not-so-hidden) gift and join the fun. Help create the entertainment for the Palm Sundays Breakfast!



Magic tricks, instrumental or vocal music, dance, dramatic readings, comedy, skits, or any other creative acts are welcome. Perform solo or gather a group of friends—this is a celebration of joy and community.

And remember: “It’s called a variety show, because no one is expected to be talented!” This is about laughter, encouragement, and sharing life together.

Whether you’ve been on stage before or this is your debut, we need you to help fill the set list. Please sign up with Pastor Jared and be part of the fun!

Transition Listening Sessions

As OSLC enters a new season of ministry, you are invited to participate in one of four Transition Listening Sessions facilitated by Pr. Jared.

As we live more fully into a solo pastor model of ministry, this is an important time for faithful conversation about our mission, direction, and shared roles and responsibilities. These sessions are not simply meetings—they are opportunities to listen deeply to one another and to the Spirit’s leading for our future.

Each session will offer the same content and conversation:

Wednesdays: March 4 & 18

7:00–9:00 pm

Sundays: March 8 & 22

10:00 am–12:00 pm

The variety of dates is intended to make participation accessible to as many people as possible. Every person in this congregation has a voice that matters—and ears to listen as we discern together.

Come share your perspective. Come listen. Come help shape what God is doing next among us.

Noisy Offering
Sunday, March 29

Bring your coins (and bills) to worship!
 The children of OSLC will be collecting a Noisy Offering after the Children’s Message to benefit the Global Health Ministries!



OUR SAVIOR’S
LUTHERAN CHURCH





Our Savior's Youth

Sunday School



PreK - 6th Grade - Sundays 10:15-11:00am

March 1st - The Prodigal Son

March 8th - **No Sunday School**

March 15th - Mary and Martha

March 22nd - The Last Supper

March 29th - Palm Sunday Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt

*We will sing at both the 9am worship & breakfast!

Confirmation

7th - 9th Grade - Wednesdays 6:30-8:00pm

All Wednesdays in March - Lent Worship at OSLC

During Lent, OSLC Confirmation Students will attend worship at OSLC at 6:30pm and then meet with Kyla in the youth room afterward until 8pm. Students are also invited to supper prior to worship beginning at 5:30pm each Wednesday in Lent.

Senior High Youth Group

10th - 12th Grade in the Youth Room

Join us for Snacks, Bible Study or Devotion/Discussion, and Games!

March 4th and 18th - 8:00 - 9:30pm

March 22nd - 1:00 - 2:30pm

Stay up to date on these activities and more! Join us in the Spond app with the code SSSZZ

Senior High Lunch

Open to all students in grades 9-12 at 12:10pm each Friday when there is school.

This month, we will have lunch together **March 13th and 27th - No School March 6th or 20th**

Want to know what's for lunch each week? Join us in the Spond app with the code HQIKQ

Save the Dates!

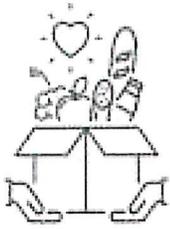
VBS: May 26th - 28th

Summer Youth Trip: July 20th - 21st

12-5pm each day at OSLC for youth entering grades K-6 in August!

Trip to Minneapolis filled with mission work and fun! The Youth Palm Sunday Breakfast is the 1st fundraiser for this trip. Sign up now on the youth bulletin board!

Contact Kyla Fetsch at youth.oursaviorsvc@outlook.com with questions! 😊



HI-LINER FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

The Backpack Program/Hi-Liner Pantry is asking for donations of individually wrapped snack items such as granola bars, crackers, cookies and chip – things the counselors can quickly grab, as they have many kids that utilize these snacks at school. They are also planning to add a “snack stash” for Jefferson and Washington Elementary Schools. These items can be dropped off in the tub located in the Gathering Room. The Hi-Liner Food Pantry continues to serve VCHS students and families. Items for the Pantry can also be dropped off in the tub located in the Gathering Room. If you would like to donate financially, please make your check out to Bridges Backpack Program, Inc. 674 10th Ave SW, Valley City, ND 58072.



MISSIONARY CALENDAR

The 2026 Missionary Calendar is filling up, but there are still days to sponsor! 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!

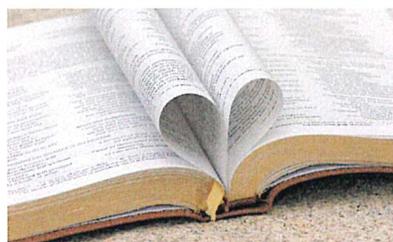
Radio Broadcast Sponsorship



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.

Wednesday Bible Study

Gathering Room
9:30am



Saturday Bible Study

Gathering Room
7:30am

Faith Lutheran Church
French Toast Brunch Fundraiser



Sunday, March 22
9:30am-12:30pm
309 4th St NE

Menu: French Toast, Sausage,
Applesauce, Coffee/Juice

Freewill Offering

To-go containers available

All proceeds go to the FLC General Fund

We now have
Instagram!



find us at
OSLCValleyCity

Wear Love
COLOSSIANS 3:12
Register For Summer Camp 2026

EXPLORE FAITH. BUILD CONNECTIONS. MAKE MEMORIES.

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Registration is now
open for
Red Willow
Bible Camp!

Find camp dates and
more information at
redwillowministries.com.

Contact Kyla Fetsch
with any questions.



As you do your spring cleaning, please 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 any time. If you have any questions, please contact LouVay White or Jan Stowman.

Palm Sunday Youth Breakfast Fundraiser March 29th!

Join us after worship in the large dining room for a free will donation breakfast of muffins, fruit, yogurt, juice and coffee, and then sit back and enjoy the "Pastor and Friends Variety Show!"

All donations support our youth summer mission trip to Minneapolis where we will volunteer at Feed My Starving Children, Global Health Ministries, and enjoy fellowship together at ValleyFair!

Thank you for your continued support of the OSLC youth!



Connect With Us



@OurSaviorsValleyCity

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



Treasurer’s Report:

The following account balances as of December 31st were noted.

GENERAL FUND.....	\$81,407.58
BUILDING FUND.....	17,946.92
MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIPS.....	1,951.81
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN.....	5,046.41
FARM FUND (Checking).....	\$172,203.56

Staff Reports:

a. Kyla Fetsch- Keeping track of hours (20), Helping with confirmation during lent, going to work with the upcoming 10th graders before they are confirmed. Shifting the time for Sunday School to 10:15am-11am. Senior High lunch is going well. VBS is set for 1st week of June (T, W, Th) and bringing back 7-12 grade trip to Minneapolis.

Committee Updates/Council Action

- a. Worship & Music- Katie discussed time for services- nothing will change until when school changes.
- b. Service and Sharing- Haley brought up time change for Council Committee since many members have younger children and 8p is late for meetings. Discussion will continue at February meeting.

Old Business

- a. Nominating Committee Update [document]- Discussed and reviewed the document. Have positions that need to be filled for Council VP, Worship & Music has been filled by John Andrus, Nominating Committee has an opening, Synod Assembly needs 2-4 reps, Property Mel Karch and Terry Lebahn are new, need to ask Dallas for 2nd term, Children & Youth looking for 3 positions to include a youth member, and then Audit Committee will ask Bobbi Jo for 2nd term.
- b. Greeters [document] - Greeters would count attendees at service and place count slip in offering, take offering up to the front during the offertory, pass out bulletins, and check pews afterward for cleanup.

From the Council President

As we start our new year, I want to start by expressing my gratitude for the volunteers in our congregation. I want to thank our outgoing Council President Margaret Dahlberg for her years of service to Our Saviors. I appreciate her thoughtful leadership and advice as we have navigated our path over the last years. I also wanted to thank LouVay White for her time on council. She is, however, continuing to serve on the property committee. When we say goodbye, we also get to welcome new members to the council. Bill Poukka is filling LouVay's place and Ross Powell has taken over my role as Vice President.

I appreciate the time, talents, dedication, and leadership it takes to be part of the Church Council and Committees. Members plan, host events, fulfill many duties, for our congregation, community, and world. This is the time in the year when we welcome new Committee members and thank those that have served and continue to serve. Over the next months in the newsletter, we are going to learn more about the Committees at Our Saviors by talking about committee charters and members. I look forward to having our committees share their accomplishments via articles and photos in the newsletter.

As many of you know, Janet Brown is retiring as our treasurer March 31st, after 10 years of service to Our Saviors in that role. We are excited to have Haley Jenrich accept the position and work with Janet to learn and transition into her new role. Again I am thankful for the talent and dedication of both Janet and Haley. If you see either one of them, please share your congratulations.

At our Church Council meeting in February, Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth joined us to express her gratitude for Our Saviors and to share how our gifts support the work of the Eastern North Dakota Synod. Bishop Tessa shared the Synod's core values, mission, and strategic plan for 2026.

Our first Lenten supper will be Feb 25th at 5:30 PM with Worship to follow at 6:30 PM. Please come and share food and fellowship with your neighbor. A different committee is hosting the meal each week with the first meal being hosted by the Exec Committee. We will be sharing the meal plan for each week in the bulletin.

I am thankful for the opportunity to be your Council President and look forward to working with Pastor Jared and the congregation as we discover more about who we are during this transitional period.

As we embark on this new chapter, I encourage everyone to participate and share ideas as we seek to strengthen our community. Your involvement makes a difference, whether through volunteering, joining a committee, or simply offering encouragement to one another. Let us continue to support each other and build on the strong foundation of faith and fellowship that defines Our Saviors.

Thank you for your trust and support. May this year be filled with growth, joy, and unity as we move forward together.

Tara Anderson

Notes From Your Treasurer

Greetings to all of you! I'm sure that you are now enjoying the pleasant weather days and tolerating the ones that cause us to shiver as you await the spring season.

At our annual meeting in January, you approved our General Fund Financial Budget for 2026. The Executive team made up of your council's president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and pastor worked diligently to come up with this budget. Here are some of the details: Budgeted income - \$339,000, budgeted expenses - \$365,000 which includes associate pastor severance pay of \$25,000 (January-March). It is our hope that the sale of the parsonage will provide us with \$25,000 to reduce the budgeted expenses to \$340,000.

Thank you for your generous support of our General Fund in the past. You also supported Designated Accounts in the amount of \$43,000 last year. A list of these Designated Accounts can be found on page 28 of the 2025 Annual Report.

We are looking forward to completing our Capital Campaign projects soon. From the time the Capital Campaign began in 2020, costs increased more than I liked to see. Additional expenses often cropped up as a project was started, sometimes just to bring the work up to acceptable code or because the cost of materials increased. We currently have a balance of \$6,500 in that account. OSLC would certainly accept financial support moving forward. Keep this in your thoughts and prayers. Also, visit the remodeled kitchen and youth room which is a very good visual of some of the changes. Other changes aren't as noticeable to our eyes like the roof, exterior work etc.

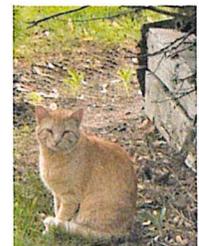
I love walking into our church building. It feels like home! You do an awesome job of supporting Our Saviors with your talents and participation. If you haven't found this to be true for you, join us through Bible studies, quilting, greeting, Sunday coffee time, helping with Senior High Lunch, church council, visiting members who can't come to church; the list goes on.

March 31st is my retirement date for being your treasurer since 2016. I have enjoyed working with you and for you for the last ten years. Please welcome Haley Jenrich who will be taking that position on April 1. I am not disappearing or fading away. I will gladly mentor Haley as she takes on this work.

Now, on the home front: My biggest news is that I am moving away from Riverview Drive when my home since 1980 is sold. Forty-six years of memories are packed in my heart as I prepare and pack for a move across town. Jigger, MacArthur and Snoopy will take the move fine, but I'm a little concerned about George, alias the Orange Streak, who often does nightly visits through the pet doors. He will miss us!

Blessings to you as we look forward to spring weather and the season of Lent and Easter.

Janet Brown





OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Savior's Lutheran Church | March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 Worship 9:00 Facebook Live 10:15 Coffee & Fellowship 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Radio Broadcast	2 9:00 Ministerial Mtg 9:00 Quilters 12:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	3 9:30 Bible Study 4:30 Exec Team 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship 7:00 Listening Session 8:00 Sr High Group	4 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship 8:00 Council	5 12:00 Sr High Lunch Pastor's Sabbath	6 7:30 am Men's Bible Study	7 7:30 am Men's Bible Study
8 9:00 Worship 9:00 Facebook Live 10:15 Listening Session 10:15 Coffee & Fellowship 10:15 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:00 Radio Broadcast	9 9:00 Quilters 12:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	10 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship 8:00 Council	11 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship 8:00 Council	12 12:00 Sr High Lunch Pastor's Sabbath	13 12:00 Sr High Lunch Pastor's Sabbath	14 7:30 am Men's Bible Study
15 9:00 Worship 9:00 Facebook Live 10:15 Coffee & Fellowship 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Radio Broadcast 6:00 Comm Closet Set-Up	16 5:00 Comm Closet 6:30 PEO 9:00 Quilters 12:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	17 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship 7:00 Listening Session 8:00 Sr High Group	18 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship 7:00 Listening Session 8:00 Sr High Group	19 12:00 Sr High Lunch Pastor's Sabbath	20 7:30 am Men's Bible Study	21 7:30 am Men's Bible Study
22 9:00 Worship 9:00 Facebook Live 10:15 Listening Session 10:15 Coffee & Fellowship 10:15 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:00 Radio Broadcast 1:00 Sr High Group	23 9:00 Quilters 12:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study	24 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship	25 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Worship	26 12:00 Sr High Lunch Pastor's Sabbath	27 12:00 Sr High Lunch Pastor's Sabbath	28 7:30 am Men's Bible Study
29 9:00 Worship 9:00 Facebook Live 10:15 Youth Breakfast & Pastor and Friends 10:15 Sunday School 11:00 Radio Broadcast 11:00 1st Communion	30 9:00 Ministerial Mtg 9:00 Quilters 12:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study 5:30 1st Communion Bread Baking	31 9:00 Ministerial Mtg 9:00 Quilters 12:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Text Study 5:30 1st Communion Bread Baking	<p>NOTE: Confirmation students, you should attend the Wednesday worship service at 6:30 and meet afterwards with Kyla in the Youth Room until 8:00</p>			

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

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March 2026



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