



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Intercom September

Fall/winter worship hours: Sunday Celebrate worship at 8:45am in the Celebrate Center. Saturday Festive worship in the sanctuary at 5 pm. Sunday Festive worship 11am in the sanctuary.

Sunday School 10-10:50am.



Devotion by Pr. Greg





Back to School... and Faith Formation!

by Madeline Trosvig,
Director of Faith Formation

September is here, and that means our church is buzzing with the energy of a new year of faith formation for kids, youth, and families! Whether you're in preschool or about to graduate high school, there's a place for you to grow in faith, build friendships, and have fun at Our Savior's Lutheran Church!

Sunday School –

Sundays from 10:00–10:50 AM
We're kicking off a brand-new year of Sunday School with exciting lessons, songs, crafts, and activities that help children grow in their faith in a fun and interactive way. Our first Sunday each month will be Intergenerational

Message from Pr. Greg

Madeline and I are excited about the coming year of Confirmation! We will get started in earnest—guides, parents, staff and youth—all meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 10th. This year's overarching theme will be "*The Real Presence of Christ.*" This theme comes from the two units of study for this year's 6th-8th graders: the first unit, **Holy Communion** (Christ really present *in, with and under* the bread and wine reminds Luther) will be followed by a deep, ten week long study of Worship (in which we trust in Jesus's promise that "where two or three gather in my name, there I am with you." Matt. 18:20). As part of this second unit, the kids will work together at writing a full worship service—from words of gathering and confession, to a hymn of praise (yep,

High School Youth Group – Wednesdays from 7:00–8:00 pm

High schoolers are invited to join us each week for games, meaningful conversations, and time to connect with God and one another. From silly icebreakers to deep faith talks, Youth Group is a place where everyone belongs and laughter is never far away.

High school schedule:

9/17~ Thunder Road (7:00-8:30)
10/1~ Youth Group
10/15~ Youth Group
10/29~ Haunted House (off site)
11/12~ Youth Group
11/ 19~ Youth Group
12/3~ Advent Fair (5:30-7:30)
12/17~ Youth Group Christmas Party

Sunday School in Fellowship Hall, where all ages learn together, because kids need to see that we never stop learning and growing in faith! Join us for our kick off event on September 7th!

Important

Reminder: All kids need to be re-registered for Sunday School each year. Parents can also sign up to help teach or assist in a classroom! Link: <https://vbspro.events/p/b29004>

they'll compose a song!) all the way to words of benediction.

Already, Madeline has secured nine adults who will be small group guides for this growing group! We give thanks!

Pastor Greg

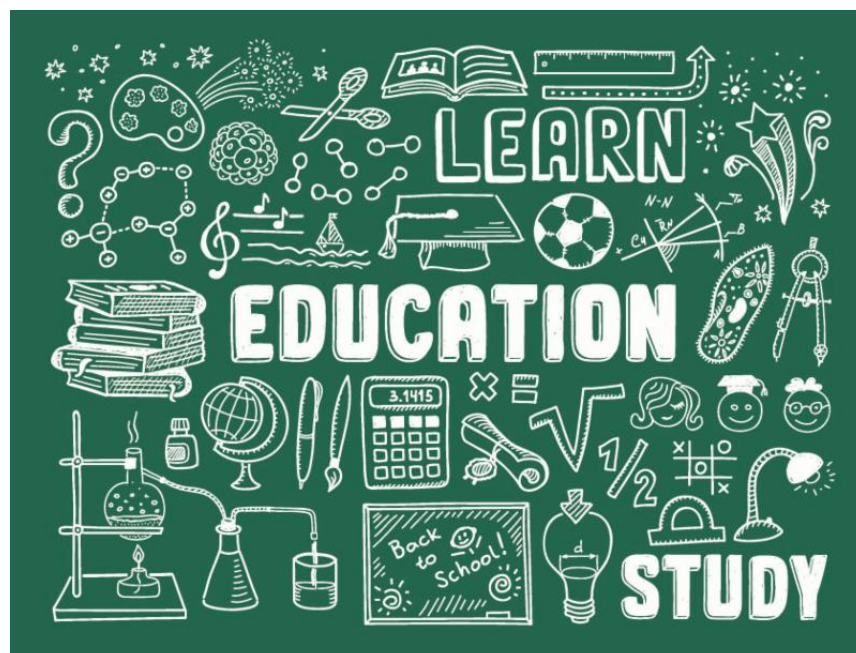
**Confirmation –
Wednesdays at
6:00 pm**

Middle schoolers will continue their journey of faith through small group discussions, Bible study, and interactive activities. **Our first night, September 10**, will be a special class for students and parents, giving families a chance to see how Confirmation works and how they can be part of their student's growth. There is a meal served for youth and their families involved in Wednesday night activities from 5:15 to 6:00 pm.

**9th Grade
Confirmation –**

**Wednesdays
from 7:00–8:00
pm**

Our 9th-grade confirmands have a special schedule this fall. On Wednesdays when the High School Youth Group meets, they'll join the high schoolers for games, discussion, and community time. On weeks when the High School Youth Group does not meet, the 9th graders will gather with Madeline and Pastor Greg for a deeper dive into lessons, discussions, and preparation for the milestone of Confirmation. **Ninth graders get confirmed on October 26th.**



Intergenerational Sunday School

On the first Sunday of each month, join us in Fellowship Hall from 10:00–10:50 am for Intergenerational Sunday School,

a time where all ages, from toddlers to great-grandparents, gather to learn, play, and grow in faith together. These Sundays will be full of energy, camp-style worship, fun crafts, and exciting experiments! Our first day of Sunday School for the year will be Sunday, September 7, and yes—it will be an Intergenerational one! Mark your calendars and experience something special.



Holy Cross Day

By Dorene Weinstein

September 14 is Holy Cross Sunday.

The cross is a well-known and deeply loved symbol of hope and salvation throughout Christianity.

But it wasn't always that way.

The cross was once a symbol of Roman execution and shame; it was used as a form of capital punishment in Jesus's time.

In the Roman Empire, if a man committed a serious crime, such as rebelling against authorities, like Jesus did, he would be sentenced to death by crucifixion. Before a man was executed, he was stripped and beaten and became a public spectacle as he weakened and died on the cross.

It was even more humiliating because Jesus was crucified next to two thieves. After His death, worshippers were wary of displaying the cross for fear of being mocked however, the meaning of the cross gradually evolved.

Crucifixions were halted after Emperor Constantine I converted to Christianity in 312 CE (Common Era is a non-religious way of identifying dates, it means the same as AD).

Martin Luther first coined the phrase: Theology of the Cross which is defined as the only source of knowledge concerning who God is and how God saves, according to Wikipedia.

The ancient celebration is observed in different ways among the contrasting denominations.

The cross is a personal entreaty to live a selfless life and to think of others, says Pr. Greg Johnson, interim pastor at OSL. "We can maybe, sort of, do what Jesus did perfectly. We can try to do the same for others."

"The Theology of the Cross is in our wheelhouse as Lutherans," Johnson says. Martin Luther referred to the theology that the cross is a divine revelation about who God is and who God saves."

The Feast of the Holy Cross commemorates the cross itself as a sign of salvation.

To Johnson, personally, "the cross is a call to service. Jesus was victorious. I'm called to serve other people. The cross is empty now. He accomplished a victory over the grave."

The cross, once a symbol of shame, is now an image of hope and salvation.

See Matthew 16 for more thoughts on the subject.

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,
Til all the world adore His sacred name.** From the hymn "Lift High the Cross"

Sources: Wikipedia, Christianity.com

Stephen Ministry

Mission statement: Stephen Ministry at OSL shares the love of Jesus Christ by providing confidential, one-to-one, distinctively Christian care to individuals who are experiencing life's challenges.

The Stephen Ministry course started Aug.19 and runs through November.

Training involves various instructors from different walks of life focusing on topics such as the art of listening, how to minister to the grieving and depressed and offering caring from the Christian perspective. Please keep them in your prayers as they move through this training and become adept at addressing the cares and troubles of others in a compassionate and sensitive manner.



Kristie Schreck-Library Coordinator



Library News

by Kristie Schreck- Library Coordinator

Library hours: Mon.-Fri.9-12 noon; Wed. 3-6pm; Sat. 4:30-6 pm; Sun. 9:30-12:15pm.

Library Vision: To provide a welcoming space in the community dedicated to connecting people and fostering lifelong learning, faith and literacy.

Also check out our library link online at:

www.oslchurch.com/library/

Contact us at: 605-336-2942

kschreck@oslchurch.com

oslchurch.com

909W. 33rd St. SFSD 57105

We have online catalog and Facebook links on our homepage:

<https://oslchurch.com/library/>

Events hosted at the library: Annual Book Sale

Trunk or Treat

ABC Author Book Talks (A book and coffee)

Monthly Book Club

Gala & Literary Festival

Faith Community Nurse

**Nurses Notes from Lea
DeLay R.N.**

**Oct. 1-Oct. 29 A matter
of balance class in the**

OSL Friendship Room
from 12-2 pm.

Oct.5 – Educational
CPR/ Adult Forum-
Between services in the
Friendship Room. .

Oct. 12- Mental health
presentation/ Adult
Forum between the
services in the Friendship
Room. Phyllis Arends,
retired psych nurse and
current board member for
Empire Mental Health will
be hosting a presentation
on mental health.

**Oct. 26- Sunday 8-12
the Bloodmobile will be
here. Consider giving
the gift of life.**



Join Us for Conversations with God

Wednesdays from 9-10:30

We know that Jesus is available to "converse" and be with us in prayer anytime and anywhere, but sometimes it's nice to join others in a conversation with God.

A group gathers most Wednesdays to pray in the chapel. We talk and then pray for the world, for concerns that have been shared with us and for things in our hearts.

We begin our time with a devotion and stop often to offer our prayers to God. If no one is there, God is still present, and you are welcome to spend time with God.

You don't need to have any special gifts or even pray out loud just join us for this special time together.

Contact Pr. Tim Lemme if you have any questions.

We hope you can join us. All are welcome.



Welcome Isabelle!

Isabelle Thorson, a new employee, started at OSL in August and will be performing office duties, updating the website,

and helping with media. She graduated from Augustana in 2023 and worked at J&L Harley Davidson for a year and a half in their events and marketing department before joining our team.

Isabelle brings a hefty knowledge of computer technology with her which she will put to good use here.

Raised in Watertown, Isabelle lives in Sioux Falls with her two cats: Elphie and Mr. Jones. She likes to spend her downtime creating crafts with the punch needle, doing diamond art, drawing and embroidery. She has a whole closet devoted to crafts and expects it to grow as her crafting endeavors expand.

Isabelle will be working half day at the front desk and a half day updating the website and tweaking the media.

She vows to bring a smile to work every day. "I'm happy to be here and want to help wherever I can."

Welcome Isabelle!



Cleaning closets, downsizing or moving?

With the fall OSL Quilting Ministry starting back up soon we have been checking our supplies and like many other

things, the price of new sheets we use for quilt backs has increased again. Thrift stores offer alternatives, but their donations are limited.

While trying to conserve but still make a difference in providing comfort and support to individuals in challenging circumstances, we are looking for new or gently used flat sheets from twin to king size.

Please consider dropping your extras off at church. Place sheets in the quilters bin by the office door or leave them at the office anytime during regular office hours. We also love cotton quilting fabric. Questions? Contact Marilyn Quam 605-323-5545.

They received this letter from McCrossan Boys Ranch:

Dear Our Savior's Lutheran Church: On behalf of the boys and staff at McCrossan Boys Ranch, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your generous donation of **5 handmade quilts**. Your kindness and craftsmanship are truly appreciated.

At the ranch each boy receives a quilt upon his arrival—something warm, personal and comforting to call his own. It stays with him throughout his journey here and becomes a meaningful keepsake he takes with him when he completes his program. These quilts are more than just blankets—they're a symbol of the care, support and new beginnings he experiences while at McCrossan.

Thanks to your generosity, we're able to continue offering these special gifts, and with them, a tangible reminder of hope and belonging. Your thoughtful support plays a valuable role in helping us provide *New Hope for a Better Life* to the young men we serve.

With Sincere Appreciation,
Jacinda Biberdorf
Assistant Director of Development



Calendar

National Happy Cat Month;

Sept. 1-: Labor Day-*Church Closed*

Sept. 2 – Friendship Club at 11am will feature Danielle Ihler, attorney, who will speak about living wills, legacy law and estate planning. Catered lunch to follow for a suggested donation of \$8 a per person.

Rosh Hashanah, a Jewish holiday that marks the beginning of the new year.

Sept. 4- Faith & Ferment at the Icon Lounge 7-8:30

Sept. 7- Kickoff Sunday- There will be a special emphasis upon the beginning of our Sunday School/Christian education year. Registration for all the youth and family ministries within the church will continue that day. Grandparents Day also the Corn Moon (September's full moon) reaches peak illumination.

Sept.11-National Hug Your Hound Day

Sept. 14- Holy Cross Day

Sept. 19-International Talk Like a Pirate Day

Sept. 20-Riverfest 2-8pm Cherapa Place side of the Big Sioux Riverwalk downtown. Free event featuring live music, food, vendors and interactive activities. [Riverfest 2025 | Downtown Sioux Falls](#)

Sept. 21-Sioux Falls Marathon features races for all levels of runners from a family-friendly walk/run 5K to a USATF certified full marathon that is a Boston Qualifying Race. Also the International Day of Peace.

Sept. 22-Autumnal Equinox at 2:19pm Marks equal hours of daylight and darkness.

Sept. 25- Food to You Distribution at St. John's Lutheran Church. Sign up to volunteer at the Welcome Center.

Book Club, 7pm at the OSL Library

Sept. 27-11-3pm-Health Connect Festival, lunch, door prizes, flu shots, health screenings, family friendly entertainment.

Sioux Falls

arena www.HEALTHCONNECTSD.ORG/FESTIVAL

Sept. 28- Creation Care Sunday. Our congregation will join with the Friends of the Big Sioux River for a river cleanup event, 1:30-3:30pm



Donations for Susan B. Anthony Elementary School



Wow! What a haul! Sasha McAdaragh, sophomore at Lincoln High School, and Brooke Knudson, first grade teacher at Susan B. Anthony, organize supplies donated to the school from members at OSL. Thank you!



Friendship Club

September 2, 11am

Friendship Club will feature Danielle Ihler, experienced attorney with Legacy Law Firm in Sioux Falls, will address topics such as living wills, estate planning, advance directives and other topics.

Everyone needs a plan, and your family will be grateful for clear instructions.

Stay for a catered lunch from Roll'n Pin afterwards for a free will offering of \$8 per person.



Looking Ahead

Oct. 1-Oct. 29 A matter of balance class in the OSL Friendship Room from 12-2 pm. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Oct.5 – Educational CPR/ Adult Forum- Between services in the Friendship Room.

Bach Collegium Concert 7pm: Augustana Music Department.

Oct. 12- Mental health presentation/ Adult Forum between the services in the Friendship Room. Phyllis Arends, retired psych nurse and current board member for Empire Mental Health will be hosting a presentation on mental health.

Oct. 26- Bloodmobile will be at the church Sunday from 8-noon.
Ninth graders get confirmed.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



SINGING IN WORSHIP

- 🎵 OCTOBER 5TH AT FESTIVE WORSHIP
- 🎵 NOVEMBER 9TH AT CELEBRATE WORSHIP
- 🎵 DECEMBER 7TH THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
AT FESTIVE WORSHIP
- 🎵 JANUARY 25TH AT CELEBRATE WORSHIP
- 🎵 FEBRUARY 22ND AT FESTIVE WORSHIP
- 🎵 MARCH 29TH PALM SUNDAY PAGEANT AT
FESTIVE WORSHIP
- 🎵 MAY 3RD AT FESTIVE WORSHIP



Fun Fact

September is the only month with the same number of letters in its name as its numerical position in the calendar.



Faith & Ferment will be held at the Icon Lounge.

7-8:30 pm Thursday, Sept. 4

All are welcome. Questions? Contact Pr. Greg 605-940-5875.

We welcome new faces as we talk about being a church that intentionally engages in social issues. These are our current prayer concerns:

- **The care of creation-water, land and sky**
- **The end of genocide in Gaza**
- **A deepening of respect between the races**
- **Spirit-led conversations about the proper use of artificial intelligence**
- **The removal of barriers that lead to pockets of hunger here in South Dakota**
- **Questions? Contact Dr. Scott Boyens**

using the contact form on the church
website: oslchurch.com

Have you had a death in the family? Let us know. Our
bereavement team can help. Call 605-336-2942



The Our savior's Choir is pictured above. The Joyful Noize
Choir is seen below.



Chorus-Pondence

By Gene LeVasseur, director of worship and music

Greetings Friends in Christ,

There are many opportunities to serve in worship ministry for everyone. You can choose to serve when you want, as much as you want.

To all of those that currently serve in a worship ministry, THANK YOU! Your generous and joyful gifts of service are an amazing blessing to Our Savior's and our Savior, Jesus Christ. To all of you that are not currently serving in worship ministries, PRAYERFULLY consider joining one of these teams as we start up ensembles in September.

Communion Leaders – assist with setting up and serving communion.

Greeters – JOYFULLY welcome all to Our Savior's worship.

Readers – read the scriptures in worship.

Sound Operator – operate the sound board for worship.

Media Operator – operate the media computer for worship (text of the screens).

TV Production – operating cameras and/or sound board.

Ushers – greeting, assist offering, communion, seating, etc.

Cantors – singers that lead the singing of Festive worship.
Adult Choir – meets Sundays at 9:30am and sing at 11:00 Sunday
worship.

Celebrate Band – meets Wednesdays 7:00pm and sing/play at
8:45 Sunday worship.

Joyful Noize – 3rd through 5th graders meet Wednesday evenings
6:00-6:45pm.

If you are interested in trying out any of our worship ministry teams
please feel free to contact the church office or myself.

“SING” cerely, Gene LeVasseur

August Birthdays

Jim Driscoll turned 80 on Aug. 8

Elsie Metz turned 90 on Aug. 20

Dee Rice turned 90 on Aug. 28

August Deaths

August 17- Helen Madsen

August 20 – Joan Snow

August 22 – Don Weisser



Volunteer Opportunities

OSL is looking for more Caring Friends to visit
homebound members. Contact Dorene at 605-3362942
ext 28.

Habitat for Humanity

9/11-Day of Service with Habitat for Humanity: Must
be 14 or older

Neighborhood Revitalization projects (exterior painting)

- Morning 9-noon
- Afternoon-1-3pm
- Evening 4-6pm

New Construction Projects

- Afternoon: 1-3pm
- Evening: 4-6pm
- Location 721 E. Amidon St., Sioux Falls, SD

[9/11 Day of Service Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sioux Falls | Helpline Center Volunteer Connections](#)

Join us for a meaningful day of impact as the Helpline Center partners with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sioux Falls for Neighborhood Revitalization efforts in alignment with the National Day of Service and Remembrance.

Together, we'll honor the legacy of 9/11 by turning a day of tragedy into a day of compassion and community action. Volunteers will help complete a range of projects that support residents in remaining safely and comfortably in their homes.

- Clothing giveaway for children ages infant to size 12 at God's Grace Church, 524 W. 13th St. Sioux Falls. 10-noon first and 3rd Wednesday of the month.
- Earn While You Learn at Teddy Bear Den-Sioux Falls-an incentive and education-based program for limited income teens, women and families to promote healthier pregnancies, babies and community. Qualifying individuals who participate in the programs may earn credits to be exchanged for new baby items such as baby clothes, blankets, bottles, etc. 605-335-2730.
- Union Gospel Mission offers a food box program open to all. Tues. and Thurs. 1-4pm. 220-N. Weber Ave. Bring your own box or bag to put food in.
- The Community Engagement Center Program at Sioux Falls School District provides free resources for families with a child in the SF school district during the school year. Services include food pantry, hygiene items, winter gear, socks and underwear, computer/internet access, social worker assistance and birthday closet. Services not offered during the summer. 605-367-4547. 201 West Ave. Door M Axtell Park

Building, SF.

· Sack Lunch Program at Lunch is Served, Inc. Non-profit outreach ministry whose mission is to provide a mid-day meal for working adults in Sioux Falls. Meals are distributed at The Banquet West, People Ready and St. Francis House. People Ready 1109 E. 14th St. S.F. 605-330-9244. Nightwatch Canteen- provides an evening meal for those in need. Meals will be served out of the Nightwatch Van. 4:45pm-5:15 pm. 205 E. 6th St. Raven Industries Parking Lot C. 605-336-3652.



Contact Information

- Church office 605-336-2942 info@oslchurch.com
- Rev. Tim Lemme - Pastor of Spiritual Care Ministries
tlemme@oslchurch.com
- Rev. Greg Johnson - Interim Pastor of Youth and Family Ministries
gjohnson@oslchurch.com
- Gene LeVasseur – Director of Worship and Music
glevasseur@oslchurch.com
- Madeline Trosvig – Faith Formation Coordinator
mtrosvig@oslchurch.com
- Rudy Kreyer – Financial Coordinator
rkreyer@oslchurch.com

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