



### *Can You Invite One Person?*

When was the last time you invited someone to church?

Not a mass text. Not a social media post. One person.

Just one.

Maybe it is someone you have not seen in awhile. A neighbor you wave to but never really talk with. A former member who drifted. A coworker who has hinted that life feels heavy lately.

We often think invitations need to be big, polished, or persuasive. They don't. The most meaningful invitations are simple and sincere.

“Hey, would you come sit with me this Sunday?”

“I've been thinking about you. Would you like to join me at church?”

“Our church has been meaningful to me. I'd love for you to experience it.”

That's it.

Church is not about filling seats. It is about creating space - space for hope, space for honest questions, space for prayer, space for community. Many people are quietly carrying more than we realize. An invitation can be a doorway. Sometime the most faithful step we can take is simply to notice someone and extend a welcome.

So here is the challenge:

Can you invite one person this month? Invite someone to a meal on Wednesday. An invitation to worship.

Invite a friend to Sunday School. Invite someone to check out our library.

Pray about who that person might be. Ask God for courage. Trust that the Spirit is already at work long before the invitation leaves your lips.

You do not have to have the perfect words. You just have to open the door.

Who is your one?

Blessings, Pastor Michael

# Food To You Distribution

Each family received approximately 54 lbs. of food.  
2,366 lbs. of government commodities  
2,474 lbs. of Feeding SD items  
308 lbs. from Aldi & Natural Grocers  
5,148 lbs.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church provided volunteers for the Food to You distribution at Augustana Lutheran Church on Thursday, February 19, 2026.

Thanks to the great recruiting work of Donna Wilson, we were also joined by seven volunteers from the Augustana University Women's Softball Team. It was a cold night with wind chills

around 0 degrees, but the volunteers did an outstanding job of welcoming community members attending the event. Thanks to all of the great help & support of our volunteers, we were able to serve 72 families in our community. Everyone did a great job serving our community guests, and despite the cold temperatures, the food distribution went very smoothly. Thank you also to several Charis Ministry volunteers who also helped at the event, including Randy, Todd, Nancy, Mark, Stacy, Kathy, Cheryl, Kim, Gary, Robert, Susie, and the Registrars, Lisa and Tammy.

Written by Bob Griggs, Coordinator of Food to You.



March 1<sup>st</sup> is our distribution for Necessities for Neighbors where over 10,000 diapers will be donated to our community members!

## Learn About Local Food Ministries

Pam Cole, Executive Director of Bread Break, who will speak between services on 3/22 at 10am in the Friendship Room. This event is sponsored by the Creation Care Team Ministry to discuss the important stewardship of our abundant food resources. Have you considered the amount of food that is wasted each day? The reality is that over one-third of the U.S. food supply is wasted across the food chain from farmers to manufacturers to consumers. Recognizing the local need for collection and reallocation of unused food, Bread Break was established as a food recovery nonprofit that feeds the hungry, supports the Sioux Falls community, and reduces food waste. We will hear about this innovative volunteer program, how it has grown over the past decade, and its significant impact for Sioux Falls.



Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the Friendship room as we learn about Charis Ministry Partner's programs: Food to You and Necessities for Neighbors. This is a powerful outreach that reflects our care for our neighbors in our community. OSL sponsors 4 distributions each year for Food to You, which includes a \$450 donation and volunteers to work the evening. We support Necessities for Neighbors by organizing a diaper drive (in the past we collected toilet paper) and we also donate \$450 and volunteers for the event. In addition, each month we collect the Food Item of the Month for donation to Charis Ministry.

# Library News

From Kristie Schreck, Library Coordinator

Library Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9a.m.-Noon;

Wed. 9a.m.-6p.m. (NEW); Sat. 4:30-6p.m.;

Sun. 9:30a.m-12:15p.m. | [www.oslchurch.com/library/](http://www.oslchurch.com/library/)

## 2026 is looking BRIGHT!

Continued adaptations to our OSL Community Library have proven to be successful! The addition of extended hours on Wednesdays has brought in additional homeschool families, families with younger children, and additional visits from our current & new patrons! Thanks to the flexibility and ambition of our volunteers in the library, you may see the doors open at other random times as well!

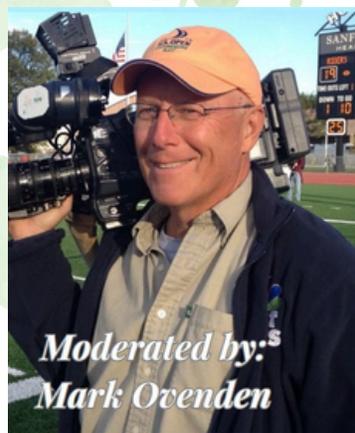
With the growing number of patrons using our community library, we have seen an uptick in the number of books coming in and going out along with an additional need for reminders of books to be returned on time and taken care of when checked out. There's always a project going on beyond our library doors!

Thank you for your support of our community library and spreading the good news of all the great activities, events, and opportunities happening every month! We look forward to seeing you in our OSL Community Library! We truly go Beyond the Books!



Beyond the Books is sponsored by the Rita & Bob Elmen Community Library and hosted by Our Savior's Lutheran Church. This will be a time to celebrate the stories that inspire us, the authors who craft them, and the experiences that bring them to life. Because it's not just about the *books*, it's about the *experience*. This will be a two-day literary event with a Gala and Literary Festival featuring: Allen Eskens, Lorna Landvik, Stu Whitney, and Paul LaRoche Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25, 2026 at 909 W 33rd St, Sioux Falls, SD Join us for both days or just the Festival! **Scan the QR code to purchase your ticket.**

- Gala + Festival: \$100
- Festival Only: \$50



Moderated by:  
*Mark Ovenden*

**OSL Community Library  
Author Event!**

THURS., MARCH 26TH  
7:00pm-8:00pm

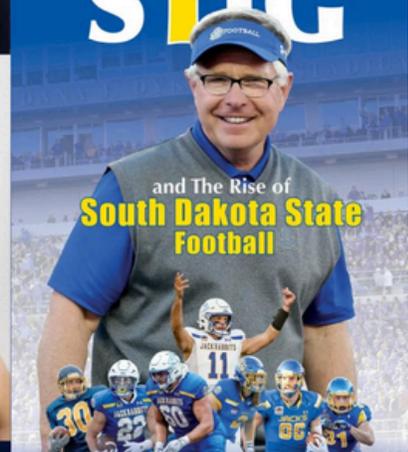
*Meet Coach. Buy a Book.  
Ask questions. Snap a pic.  
Get an autograph!*

# STIG

and The Rise of  
**South Dakota State  
Football**



Meet the author:  
*Tanner Castora*



# Chorus-pondence

The word enthusiasm comes from the two Greek words; en, meaning in or within, and theos, meaning God. Enthusiasm is therefore “God within”. Jack Lalanne opened the first modern health spa in 1936 and first live exercise television show in 1956. Jack celebrated his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday by towing 70 boats with 70 people for a mile across Long Beach Harbor by holding the rope in his teeth while handcuffed and wearing leg shackles. It’s safe to say Jack was one of the great fitness enthusiasts ever.

I have the privilege of working with an amazing staff and congregation at Our Savior’s and one thing that is consistent with those that participate in ministries here is their enthusiasm. I believe that God is within ALL of us and folks are somehow finding strength regardless of their human limitations. I recently came across a book I read many years ago, “Life Wide Open,” by Pastor David Jeremiah.

He outlined 5 suggestions on how to keep the fire burning inside of us:

**1.Stretch beyond your comfort zone.** There have been so many times I’ve observed fright in the eyes of musicians I gave a challenging selection to. Each time I’ve watched them step up and give their all, growing through the process and feeling great joy when the task was accomplished.

**2.Spend time with kids.** I am the oldest of 5 siblings, a teacher for 24 years, a parent, grandparent, and continue to have the honor of working with children at OSL and as a clinician in schools. What a blessing it is each and every second I spend with kids. Toni and I are empty nesters and if I sense she needs a boost in joy we find a way for her to have grandma time and it works every time! Her joy is returned and overflowing!

**3.Seek out exciting experiences.** It’s one thing to dream about what we would like to do and it’s another to seek out a way to actually do them. I hesitate to confess this but I am a HUGE Survivor fan. I’ve auditioned more than once and will keep auditioning. While I’m waiting to be cast I intend on seeking outdoor adventures that will become my own personal “Survivor” seasons.

**4.Surround yourself with passionate people.** Passion is contagious and at Our Savior’s we are blessed to have passionate people in every area of our church. I spend a lot of time in music rehearsals with people that love to worship through music, but more importantly, love God and love people. They work hard on music AND talk about how to help others in need, pray for each other, and together get spiritually filled by the Holy Spirit. I see this happening in all ministries at OSL!

**5.See the big picture.** I was blessed to be raised in a family that stressed the eternal. The more I learn about God the bigger my view of the world becomes and the smaller my personal problems become.

Mark Hall and Matthew West composed a song that sums all this up beautifully. Here’s the refrain: Just to know You and to make You known, we lift Your name on high. Shine like the sun, make darkness run and hide. We know we were made for so much more than ordinary lives. It’s time for us to more than just survive. We were made to thrive!



(Festive & Celebrate Musicians Rehearsing a Jazz Service)

## *Children and Youth During Lent at OSL*

Lent is always a meaningful season in the life of our church, and I love seeing how even our youngest members enter into it with curiosity and heart. Throughout March in Sunday School, we are walking through this season together and talking about what it means to be honest with God, to notice where we feel broken, and to trust that we are deeply blessed. Lent invites us to slow down, reflect, and remember how much we need Jesus.

As we move closer to Holy Week, our Sunday School students will help lead us into Palm Sunday on March 29 during the Festive Service through a special song! It is powerful to watch them proclaim “Hosanna!” and step into the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem. Their leadership helps all of us enter more fully into the journey toward the cross and the resurrection.

Looking just ahead into April, our 5th graders will gather for their Agape Meal on April 1. This is a special milestone evening centered on Holy Communion and Christ’s love poured out for us. This experience helps connect the story of Holy Week to the sacrament we celebrate together. Fifth grade families, mark your calendars for the Agape Meal on April 1st at 6:00 PM. Thank you for continuing to walk through this sacred season with our children and youth. Lent reminds us that God meets us exactly where we are, and that is good news for all of us!

## *EmBe Lunch Program at OSL in 2025*

EmBe update from summer 2025: The EmBe lunch program served 6,856 kids out of the OSL location last summer. This year, they’re estimating to serve 200 kids per day during the program at OSL, which runs from June 1 – August 14

## *OSL Vacation Bible School*

Vacation Bible School is June 1st through the 4th and registration is now open for kids and volunteers! Join us as we explore the Nature of God. VBS is open to current 3-year-olds (potty trained) through 5th grade. Middle and high school students are invited to sign up as guides.



## Community Updates:

It was wonderful to see so many people at the OSL Foundation annual meeting on January 25. During 2025, the Foundation provided \$153,000 in support of various ministries at our church.

Foundation assets have continued to grow and now total more than \$4 million. We are deeply grateful for the intentional generosity of so many people over the years. Because of their faithfulness, we now have the opportunity to help provide for OSL Church for generations to come. The OSL Foundation will be offering free information sessions on Sunday, April 12, at 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Kathy McHenry, Executive Director of Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota, will share helpful information on wills, estate planning, and other charitable giving topics. She will also be happy to answer any questions you may have. Similar sessions held last year were well attended.

Please consider attending to learn more. These sessions are informational only and will focus on education and questions—this is not a sales presentation. Additional details will be shared in the coming weeks.

If you need assistance or have questions about the OSL Foundation, please contact the Church Office at 605-336-2942.

Thank you for your continued support.

## Interested in Joining Our Savior's?

Sign up at the Welcome Center or Call the Office. Join us on Sunday April 19th and 26th between Services to find out more about the church. If you cannot make one of these meetings we will find away to welcome you in. The following week we invite you to officially join the church at one of the services the first weekend in May at the service of your preference.

### Calling all Thrivent Members!

Our Savior's Lutheran Church is excited to share we are part of the Thrivent Choice® approved non-profit list.

If you are a Thrivent Member, please consider directing your Thrivent Choice dollars to support OSL.

Reminder: All 2025 Thrivent Choice dollars expire March 31, 2026.

## Faith & Ferment

Thursday, March 5th, from 7-8:30 p.m. we will meet at the Roundhouse Brew Pub (1515 E 69th St, Sioux Falls.) This night will be a chance to continue conversations about current social concerns we face. Spirit-led conversations over topics like the proper use of artificial intelligence or the removal of barriers that lead to pockets of hunger here in South Dakota. Contact the Church Office with questions. We look forward to a productive conversation in a welcoming space where all are welcome!

# Faith Community Nurse Charting

by Lea Delay

Colorectal cancer is the fourth most commonly diagnosed cancer in the U.S. and the second leading cause of cancer death. Yet this cancer can be prevented with screening and is highly treatable when detected early. Screening age for colorectal cancer was changed from age 50 to age 45 due to the increase in cancer diagnosis in younger people. Those at a higher risk for developing colorectal cancer, are recommended to begin screening at an earlier age. People considered high risk for developing colon cancer are those with a family history or genetic link to the disease (FAP, Lynch Syndrome), a history of chronic inflammatory bowel diseases. Talk with your doctor to determine when screening may be right for you.

Like many forms of cancer, risk reduction strategies for colorectal cancer focus heavily on modifiable (able to be changed) lifestyle factors. Dietary changes include increasing consumption of fiber, fruits, and vegetables while reducing red and processed meat. Also included are maintaining a healthy weight, exercising regularly, and avoiding smoking and alcohol. The most effective way to prevent developing colon cancer is to get your colonoscopy at your recommended age, so that precancerous polyps can be removed before they turn into cancer. Although there are other options for detecting cancer at this time, the colonoscopy still remains the “gold standard” for cancer detection.

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and is a cause that is near and dear to my heart. I worked as a procedural nurse at the Sanford Center for Digestive health for over 5 years, and still pick up a few days a month helping patients check-in and get ready for their endoscopy. If you or someone you know has questions about an upcoming procedure, I am more than willing to be a resource for more information, and point you in the right direction.

## SAIL (Staying Active and Independent for Life)

A SAIL class is offered at Our Savior's and runs all year long, with breaks in between sessions. This course is offered for adults 65+ and offers an aerobic workout, balance, and strengthening. Our new twelve-week session is starting on February 9th and will be Monday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m.



to 10:00 a.m. If interested, contact 605-336-2942 and ask for OSL Faith Community Nurse Lea DeLay.

## Workout Wednesdays

Every Wednesday a 30-minute workout class runs in the Hub with an option to walk after class!

Every week we meet at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays and it runs all year long.

Please call the Church Office for more information!

## Bible Study Broken and Blessed - Joseph. Egypt. Jesus as a Refugee.

A 3-Week Lenten Bible Study exploring Israel's complicated relationship with Egypt. Lent invites us to tell the truth about what is broken, and to notice where God is still at work blessing and protecting. In this Bible study, we will explore Egypt as a place of refuge in Scripture through the stories of Joseph in Genesis, and the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Together we will reflect on displacement, fear, obedience, and survival, and consider how God works quietly within broken circumstances. This is a discussion-based study, open to questions, and welcoming of all levels of biblical experience.

Continued Monday, Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> and Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>

Mondays at 6:00 PM | Thursdays at 3:00 PM

Led by Pastor Michael

Each session covers the same material.

Attend whichever time works best for you.

All are welcome.

## Recent Loss Lenten Series

Lenten "Recent Loss Series" will be held March 4, 11, and 18, from 5:00–6:00 p.m. in the Chapel. For those of you who have recently experienced the death of a loved one, this series helps you understand and work through the feelings of grief and loss. Sign up at the church office if you plan to attend.

Contact Pr. Tim for more information at 336-2942, or email at [tlemme@oslchurch.com](mailto:tlemme@oslchurch.com)

## March Friendship Club



Please join Friendship Club on Tuesday, March 3 at 11:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room, as OSL Faith Formation Director, Madeline Trosvig offers us a presentation about the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program, and her year of service in Szeged, Hungary during 2023–2024. YAGM invites young adults to live and serve alongside global partners, building relationships and learning through accompaniment.

Madeline will share stories from her time abroad, highlight elements of Hungarian culture, and reflect on how the experience shaped her faith and understanding of global church connections. This will be a chance to learn more about the YAGM program and hear firsthand how God works through cross-cultural ministry.



OSL Community Library

# USED BOOK SALE

**SAT., MARCH 7TH  
9AM-5PM**

**SUN., MARCH 8TH  
9AM-12:30PM**



Want a FREE Saturday Ticket for *Beyond the Books*?  
(BTB on 4/25 from 8:30am-3:30pm)

Go to our Facebook or Instagram and tell us your favorite BOOK for an extra chance to win!







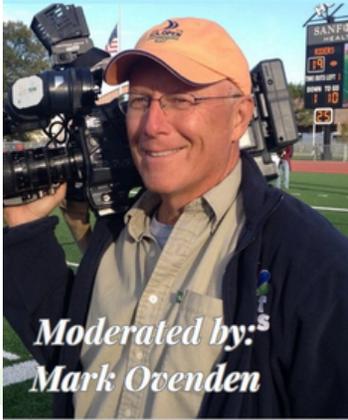
**HAPPY National Read Across America Day!**  
Winner will be announced March 2<sup>nd</sup>  
ENJOY READING :)

OSL Community Library  
*Author Event!*

**THURS., MARCH 26TH  
7:00pm-8:00pm**

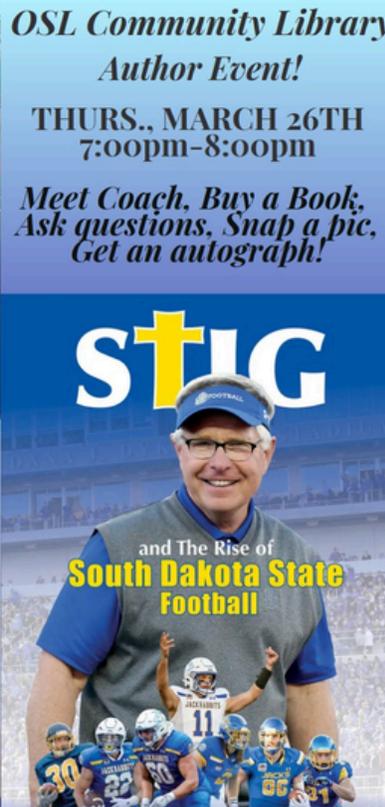
*Meet Coach. Buy a Book. Ask questions. Snap a pic. Get an autograph!*

Moderated by:  
**Mark Ovenden**



**STIG**

and The Rise of  
**South Dakota State Football**



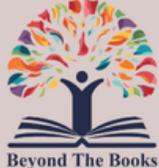
Meet the author:  
**Tanner Castora**



**Friday**  
5:30pm-8:00pm  
A meet-and-greet with our guest authors, a formal sit-down dinner by Minerva's, and live Jazz music

**Saturday**  
8:30am-3:30pm  
Four presentations by renowned authors, book signings, a vibrant book-themed vendor fair, breakfast pastries, and boxed lunch provided

Scan/Hold Here for Tickets

Featured Authors

Allen Eskens



Stu Whitney



Lorna Landvik



Paul LaRoche



There are plenty of upcoming events at Our Savior's and we hope you can attend. Feel free to reach out to the Church Office at 605-336-2942 or stop in.

## Lent Worship Schedule

### Wednesday, March 4

12:00 pm & 6:30 pm (30 minutes)

### Wednesday, March 11

12:00 pm & 6:30 pm (30 minutes)

### Wednesday, March 18

12:00 pm & 6:30 pm (30 minutes)

### Wednesday, March 25

12:00 pm & 6:30 pm (30 minutes)

## Soup & Bread Meals

Wednesday  
March 4, 11, 18, 25

Lunch at 12:30 pm | Supper 5-6:15 pm

You can now purchase an Easter plant at the front desk or the Welcome Center in honor of someone you care for and help beautify our church!

There are plenty of upcoming events at Our Savior's and we hope you can attend. Feel free to reach out to the Church Office at 605-336-2942 or stop in.

## Prayerful Procession with All Denominations

On Palm Sunday (March 29th), from 2-4 pm CT, Christians of all denominations are invited to gather in downtown Sioux Falls for a positive, non-partisan, and prayerful procession, worship, and reflection on Jesus' way of love. We will walk, pray, and sing as a public witness to the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ: love that welcomes, feeds, and heals. Participants are invited to bring palms from their Sunday worship services. Interested Our Savior's participants can meet at 1:30 pm in the parking lot to carpool over. Join Pastor Michael and others. Sign up at the Welcome Center. Details on starting and ending location(s) will be forthcoming. The website has made this clear:

We are committed to this being a peaceful, nonpartisan, and prayer-centered gathering and, if you choose to attend, we expect you to uphold that commitment. Love welcomes. Love feeds. Love heals.

March together! Love on the Way - <https://sdsynod.org/loveontheway/>

## Friendship Club

On April 7th, we welcome a representative of Midwest Street Medicine to Friendship Club. Midwest Street Medicine is a multi-disciplinary team comprised of doctors, physician assistants, nurses, pharmacists, addiction specialists, social workers, and peer support specialists. Their work provides whole-person care to those experiencing homelessness, with consideration for the unique needs of each individual. The team brings care directly to the streets. The presentation will begin at 11 am and will be followed by lunch in the gathering place.



# Community Update

The summarized cash-basis Statement of Activity is a snapshot of the membership's financial support of the General Fund (daily ministry) of Our Savior's Lutheran Church through January. January was a wonderful month at OSL and a great start to the 2026 new year! Our January current fund offerings came in at \$165,723.29 and pushed us further into the positive! Through January last year (2025), we were at a Net Operating Income of \$9,938.89. Same time frame this year through January; we are at a Net Operating Income of \$162,036.83! This is wonderful news and it is a testament to our benevolent congregation, dedicated council members, and our caring staff. But we won't celebrate too early, nor lose focus on our mission plan. It is OSL's 80th anniversary this year and there is much good work to be done! We shall continue to honor the past and build for the future by being true stewards of our beautiful Church and to all who enter. May God's love be abundant everyday and may we continue to share it with each other and the world. God Bless you all and thank you for all you do.

Rudy Kreyer  
OSL Director of Operations

| <b>OSL Statement of Activity - 7.1.25 through 1.31.25</b> |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| General Fund Offerings                                    | \$991,572.11            |
| Noisy Offerings   | \$3,264.11              |
| Building Use Income                                       | \$30,161.36             |
| Building & Renovation Fund                                | \$18,800.00             |
| Memorials/Estate Gifts                                    | \$8,259.69              |
| OSL Foundation Income                                     | \$14,400.44             |
| Designated Gifts  | \$49,760.00             |
| Spiritual Care Donations                                  | \$15,173.65             |
| Youth Ministry/Lifelong Learning Donations                | \$16,136.00             |
| Beyond the Books 2026 Income                              | \$7,275.00              |
| TV Ministry & Worship Donations                           | \$19,450.00             |
| Discipleship Income – Food Ministry & Events              | \$7,417.76              |
| Hockey Parking  | \$15,744.00             |
| <b>Total Offerings: July - January</b>                    | <b>\$1,197,414.12</b>   |
| Facility Expenses   | \$183,262.65            |
| Administration Expenses                                   | \$63,620.53             |
| Personnel   | \$579,782.72            |
| Professional Expenses                                     | \$4,127.46              |
| Ministry Teams Expenses                                   | \$96,043.90             |
| Benevolence   | \$108,540.03            |
| <b>Total Expenses: July - January</b>                     | <b>(\$1,035,377.29)</b> |
| <b>Net Operating Income: July - January</b>               | <b>\$162,036.83</b>     |

# “With a grateful heart.”

I would like to say a very heartfelt thank you to the Congregational Council and to the entire congregation of OSL for your expressions of gratitude and love for my ministry with you, your kindness is greatly appreciated.

It continues to be my joy to serve with you in ministry, and as we embrace new beginnings with excitement and hope, may God’s love and Spirit continue to be our strength and guide!

In Christ’s love, Pr. Tim



# Holy Week



April 2nd | 12:00 pm & 6:30 pm

Good Friday

April 3rd | 6:30 pm  
Traditional Service



April 4th  
NO  
SATURDAY  
SERVICE

Easter Sunday



7:00 am & 11:00 am  
(Traditional Service)

8:45 am  
(Contemporary Service)

## A Great Group at OSL

Attending the meetings of Peace by Piece Quilters provides the opportunity to make beautiful quilts (and other items) for people who may be in a difficult situation in their lives right now. During the meetings we assemble the layers to make the quilts, tie the layers together, and sew on the binding. Another aspect of the group that I enjoy is the fellowship time we have over coffee and treats. It is heartwarming to be part of this group of Christian women who desire to serve the Lord and the community.



The King will reply,

“I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.”

Matthew 25:40



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www.oslchurch.com

INTERCOM (USPS311210)

Published monthly by:

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Congregation  
909 West 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
Periodicals Postage Paid at Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
POSTMASTER:  
Please send address change to INTERCOM,  
909 West 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57105

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### **Worship is central to Our Savior's Lutheran Church.**

*We offer two distinct worship styles:*

A traditional (organ/piano) service in our Sanctuary on Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. and on Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

Our Contemporary service is on Sunday 8:45 a.m. in the Celebrate Center with our praise band inspiring our time together



Facebook



OSL Website



YouTube Live  
(Recommended)



Facebook Live

Watch our Celebrate worship at 9:00 a.m. on Fox station KDLT.

Watch our Festive worship on cable channel 30 at 1:00 p.m.