

And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three,
and the greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13:13

This summer our Psalms Bible Study has begun and has been a lot of fun. You can join us for the second 3-week session that begins July 28th. I am aware that in the summer we come and go, and the routines and rhythms are different than the programmatic year, and so we have a link to the Bible study on our webpage that you can access under the “What’s Happening” tab, then clicking “Bible Studies.” or at oslchurch.com/whats-happening/bible-studies/. What makes this Bible study a little different is that we are connecting the Psalms to songs you may have listened to on the radio. With that theme I have invited our staff to share a particular song that has connected with them in their journey. The following is my contribution to this endeavor. You will find their contributions as well as the full version of this devotional in the future weekly "Coming Up" emails. We hope this journey into Psalms will deepen your understanding.

“For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13:12-13

The song I chose, "In My Life" by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, can be seen as a wonderful love song to an important person in your life. It has connected with many people over countless generations. I had heard it countless times before and then one day as I listened I remember thinking, what if this song was a love song to God? Don't get me wrong, I'm not trying to lift up the Beatle's faith life. I was merely transforming this incredible piece of art into a song that had a deeper meaning for me.

“All these places had their moments... I've loved them all... But of all these friends and lovers there is no one compares with you.” These lyrics connect with my understanding of God's love. That all of my relationships in this life are a way that I can better understand what love is. Now as I listen to this song. I picture countless relationships. The dead and the living that have blessed my life. And I remember that these connections of love in my life. From Grandma Minnie to my middle school teacher who told me never to mold my self into someone else; From my first relationship to my ex-wife to my relationship: From my children and all those other friends who have been there in important (and unimportant moments). They are all puzzle pieces that are helping me to better understand God in Christ Jesus who loves me completely. I hope this song blesses you as it has blessed me.

Blessings in Christ, Pastor Michael

What a week! Tim Schavee and I had the privilege of taking eight of our middle school youth to Outlaw Ranch, and we came home with full hearts, great memories, and only a few bumps and bruises. The week was packed with adventure. We rode horses, played countless games, and experienced all the fun that camp has to offer. Tim proved that he's absolutely "gas" (the highest compliment our campers could give this week) at Nine Square in the Air and somehow managed to come back with only minimal injuries.

One of the highlights for me was the all-camp game on Tuesday, Letters to Garcia. I may or may not have been literally sprinting up and down the very steep hills of camp, with the kids dragging me up the hills to keep me going. The competition was fierce, the macarena was danced (many times), and the memories are ones I won't soon forget. As our kids would say, "aura memories."

Beyond all the fun and adventure, the best part of the week was getting to spend time with our incredible middle schoolers. Camp gives everyone the opportunity to grow in our faith, build deeper relationships, and simply enjoy being together in God's beautiful creation. And Tim and myself are feeling blessed we got this precious time with these outstanding kids.

Thank you to everyone who supported our campers and prayed for our trip. Tim, myself, and our 8 youth had an unforgettable week. I am so grateful for this career that gives me the sacred opportunity to walk alongside the wonderful youth of OSL as they continue to understand and form their faith.

Written by Madeline Trosvig, Director of Faith Formation





POTLUCK & PUNCHLINES 2.0

Join us for another fun-filled evening featuring delicious food, live music from the band Short Notice, and family-friendly comedy from Tim Boyd!

29 JULY 2026

IN THE GATHERING PLACE

6:00 PM- POTLUCK MEAL & LIVE BAND

7:00 PM- COMEDIAN BEGINS

OSLC will provide BBQ's for the potluck.

Bring a side dish or dessert to share!

Free will offering.

Summer Blast

We truly had a BLAST at this year's Summer Blast! Thank you to everyone who came and to all who helped make this event a success!



Retired Clergy & Spouses Gathering

POP ON OVER



to chill out with us!

Retired clergy (including deacons, SAMs, etc) and/or their spouses are invited to Pastor Nancy & Pastor Tedd's home!

Whether you served near or far, please join us!

July 15, 5pm

BBQs & chips will be provided, you are welcome to bring a side to share!

RSVP to Pastor Nancy
nrieke@oslchurch.com or
call the OSL church office
at (605)336-2942

Have Your Cake & Freedom Too!

Have your cake & freedom too!



You are invited to join us on Sunday, July 5th, from 9:30am-10:30am between services for cake and fellowship, served by library volunteers.

OSL Community Library BINGO

Bingo Card ID 001

OSL Community Library Summer BINGO			
Make a bookmark!	Read a nonfiction book!	Unplug from screens for an hour!	Recommend a book to a librarian!
Write a short review of a book!	Read a book that's a movie!	Follow the OSL Community Library on FB!	Read in a comfy spot in the library!
Read out loud to someone!	Bring a friend to the OSL library!	FREE SPACE	Tell someone about a book you read!
Read in bed!	Read to a stuffed or real animal!	Read Outside!	Visit the OSL Library!

myfreebingocards.com

BINGO FOR ALL! Reading can be fun, but for some it may be a chore. The OSL Community Library is giving everyone a chance to have some fun reading AND potentially win a prize! Stop by the library and pick up your summer reading BINGO card! BINGO is open from June 10th - July 12th! Each BINGO earns you a ticket (maximum of 4 + 1 blackout) to place in a jar for the prize of your choice! Winners will be called no later than July 13th to come pick up their prize! BINGO!

Connect with the Library

Kristie Schreck, Library Coordinator

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

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

Sun. 9:30-11:45a.m. | www.oslchurch.com/library/



Songs for the Soul

We have had a great first few weeks of Bible study! All are welcome to join us as we continue exploring the Psalms through Scripture and Song. Check the church calendar for meeting dates!

We will be uploading recordings of the teachings, participant guides, and related songs to the website within one week of each in-person session.

You can find these at our website under the “What’s Happening” tab, then clicking “Bible Studies.” or scan this QR code:



Supporting Our Television and Online Ministry

Our Savior's television and online worship ministries are offered as a gift to all who seek to worship with us. We are grateful for the many people who join us each week through these platforms. Because it can be difficult to know how many people regularly connect with our ministry through television and online worship, we are inviting those who choose to support this ministry financially to include \$1.23 in their gift amount to the general offering.

For example:

- \$20 becomes \$21.23
- \$100 becomes \$101.23
- \$250 becomes \$251.23

This simple marker helps us identify gifts from those who primarily connect with Our Savior's through television or online worship, giving us a clearer picture of the reach and impact of these ministries. Thank you for your support and for being part of our worshipping community.

Chorus-pondence from Worship

Greetings Friends in Christ,

On July 4th and 5th our Festive services will be led by piano, bass, drums, and saxophone musicians playing familiar hymns in a jazz style. We've been doing this the weekend after Christmas and one weekend in summer and it's a big hit. On July 19th we have the Singing Legionnaires leading Festive worship and they are a huge hit as well.

Pastor Michael is leading a bible study called "Songs for the Soul" and it too is a huge hit! We look at the Psalms in our bibles and the structure they provide AND songs that are not considered sacred and how they can still provide a spiritual experience for us. Music is an amazing gift from God for us and when we take the time to experience music either listening or singing we engage our body, mind, and spirit. Music has the power to make us feel especially when we let ourselves focus on the lyrics and music fully. I love this series and pray you will consider attending!

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 ministries, 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:

Communion Leaders – assist with setting up and serving communion.

Greeters – 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, offering, seating, etc.

Cantors – singers that lead the singing of Festive worship.

Bell Choir – meets Tuesdays 5:00pm and ring 3 or 4 services per semester.

Our Savior's Choir – meets Sundays at 9:30am and sing at 11:00 Sunday worship.

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

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



Worship with our grandchildren
Jayvin & Kaydence

VBS 2026: Exploring the Nature of God



What an incredible week of Vacation Bible School! During the first week of June, 55 children and 25 amazing volunteers filled OSL with laughter, energy, and opportunities to learn about God's love. Throughout the week, our kids discovered that God is our creator, knows everything, is love, and lasts forever. Through music, games, crafts, science, snacks, and Bible stories, faith was planted and friendships grew.

A week like VBS doesn't happen without an entire congregation behind it. Thank you to everyone who volunteered as a crew leader, station leader, or a behind the scenes person, and those who donated supplies and snacks, shopped our Amazon wish list, prayed for our kids and leaders, or simply encouraged our ministry. Your generosity and support make it possible for us to create a welcoming place where children can grow in their faith and experience God's love.

Thank you for helping make VBS 2026 such a wonderful success.

We can't wait to see what God has in store for next summer!

Written by Madeline Trosvig, Director of Faith Formation



Serve Sioux Falls: A High School Weekend of Service

Join us for Serve Sioux Falls, August 7–9, 2026! This exciting weekend is open to students entering 8th–12th grade and will bring together OSL youth and friends from the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer in Watertown for a weekend of service, fun, and fellowship.

We'll spend the weekend serving our community through projects like helping at The Banquet, participating in clean-up efforts, worshipping with Church on the Street, and learning from local nonprofits about the important work they do in Sioux Falls. Of course, we'll balance our service with plenty of fun, including an outing to Thunder Road, plenty of lock-in styled games (mission impossible), a movie, and meals out together!

We'll stay overnight at OSL, and the cost for the weekend is just \$30. Come make new friends, serve our community, and discover how God calls us to love our neighbors. To sign up, call the church office or email Madeline at mtrosvig@oslchurch.com. We hope you'll join us for an unforgettable weekend!

UV Safety Month

Written by Lea DeLay, Fath Community Nurse

UV Safety Month occurs every July, marking the peak of summer when the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation is at its strongest. This month is dedicated to raising awareness about protecting your skin and eyes to prevent skin cancer, premature aging, and vision damage. There are a few key ways that someone can be proactive about their protection against UV rays, while still enjoying the summer sunshine.

Seek Shade: Avoid direct sunlight during the most hazardous hours, typically between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Use Sunscreen Daily: Apply a broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher every day. Reapply generously every two hours, or immediately after swimming or sweating. Remember that damaging UV rays are still present even if it's a cloudy day.

Dress for Defense: Wear UV-protective clothing. Such as breezy, long-sleeve shirts, and wide-brimmed hats that protect your ears and neck.

Protect Your Eyes: Wear sunglasses that block 100% of both UVA and UVB rays to prevent cataracts and eye damage.



The Gift of Camp Ministry

Written by Madeline Trosvig, Director of Faith Formation

As June turns into July, I'll have the privilege of spending time at both NeSoDak Bible Camp and Shetek Lutheran Ministries with our OSL elementary youth. Camp season is one of my favorite parts of ministry, and I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to be there alongside our kids. While camp is full of exciting activities, campfires, games, and adventures, what makes it truly special to me is the time spent building relationships. Being at camp as a youth director allows me to see our young people in a different light. Away from busy schedules and everyday routines, I get to watch them grow in confidence, try new things, deepen their faith, and simply be themselves. Those moments of laughter, conversations, and shared experiences are priceless and help strengthen the relationships we build throughout the year at OSL.

Camp also gives me the opportunity to connect with the incredible counselors who pour so much into our youth. As an added bonus, many of these counselors are students at Augustana University, practically our neighbors right across the street! Building those relationships helps strengthen the connections between our congregation, local young adults, and the broader ministry of our Lutheran camps.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the congregation of Our Savior's Lutheran. Thank you for supporting youth ministry in ways that allow me to spend this valuable time away from the office during the summer. Your encouragement and support make it possible for me to invest in the lives of our children and walk alongside them in some of their most meaningful faith experiences. Please keep our campers, counselors, and staff in your prayers as we continue through the summer. I can't wait to see all the ways God will work in the lives of our OSL kids at camp!

Synod Assembly

We are thankful for another great Synod Assembly! Thank you to all who volunteered to make this event run as smoothly as possible. We hosted almost 500 people from various ELCA churches across South Dakota in our beautiful space!



Better Together Maps

As we continue in our “Better Together” sermon series, we are enjoying seeing pins from where everyone has traveled! This board is a reminder to us that we are connected, as we travel across the state, country, and even the world. If you haven’t already, you are invited to place a pin on the map to mark where you’ve visited this summer!



Small Comforts One Day at a Time

By Ben Weins

For as long as I can remember I have been a planner who didn't want to fall behind. Even in my childhood school days, I remember getting my assignments done ahead of time, usually doing them as fast as I could. I am sure the quality of my work would have improved significantly if I took just a little more time and enjoyed the process more.

I am not sure why I was in such a hurry. Maybe part of the reason is that our culture often celebrates speediness and the spectacular. Because of this it is easy to overlook the significance of slowing down and recognizing small comforts, enjoying not just the result but the process along the way. We often imagine God's blessings arriving through dramatic miracles, life-changing opportunities, or mountaintop experiences. Yet, much of God's care for us comes through ordinary moments that quietly sustain our bodies, minds, and souls.

Scripture reveals a God who pays attention to both the grand and the small. Jesus pointed His followers to the birds of the air and the lilies of the field as evidence of the Father's care (Matthew 6:26-30). The God who created galaxies also notices sparrows and counts the hairs on our heads. Nothing is too small to escape His loving attention.

I recently read a book that reminded me how when we feel like life has become too difficult, we often just need to slow down and experience a little comfort to keep going. Taking a break to eat a healthy meal, getting an extra hour or two of sleep, finding a quiet place to pray, or having a good conversation with a friend or family member...these are some of the small comforts that can sustain us to continue on the day's journey. Our circumstances probably haven't changed, but our perspective and ability to continue on often does.

Stephen Ministers, at OSL and around the world, give the "small comfort" of listening when someone is experiencing one of life's challenges. Most of the time these conversations are not overwhelmingly insightful or life changing. However, they are comforting. They are valuable. They are enough to keep going for another day with hope for tomorrow.

The Christian life is not sustained only by extraordinary moments. More often, it is nourished by countless small mercies that arrive day after day. As the prophet Jeremiah declared, "His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning" (Lamentations 3:22-23). May we learn to recognize these small, daily gifts. Let them be enough for today and trust there will be some more tomorrow. Amen.

OSL Logo Wear

OSL has opened an online shirt store! Lots of colors, styles, and sizes to choose from.

Order and pay directly through the company's website. Select "pick up at Our Savior's Lutheran" to avoid shipping fees.

Orders will be printed at the end of each month, with delivery following approximately three weeks after. We will notify you when your order arrives.



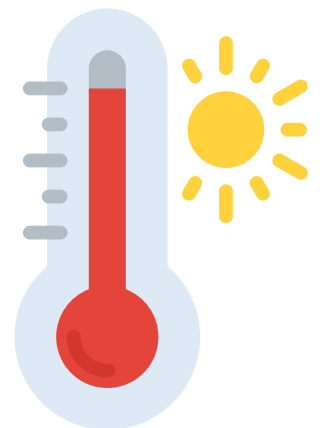
OSL Church Building & Library Closed | July 13-17

The OSL Church Building and Library will be closed Monday, July 13th through Friday, July 17th as we work to replace our air conditioning unit.

Staff will be working remotely but will be available for emergencies by calling the Church Office at (605)336-2942.

We are not scheduling any on-site events that week. If you have a group that meets at OSL, we will contact you regarding rescheduling or cancelling.

We anticipate the project to be finished by the 17th. Worship services are scheduled as normal July 18th and 19th. If we encounter any issues, we will communicate accordingly.



OSL Foundation News

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church Foundation has elected the following officers for 2026:

- Anthony Pizer - President Brian Sittig - Treasurer
- Curt Olson - Vice President Chris Fischer - Secretary

Other board members include Scott Boyens, Dean Buckneberg, Debby Olson, Betsy Sittig, Randy Fink, and Pastor Michael Stadtmueller.

The value of Foundation assets has grown to \$4.2 million. During 2025, the OSL Foundation provided \$153,000 to support various ministries at our church. A similar amount will be available this year.

We are grateful for all the support of the Foundation. Several options are available to make contributions, including cash, investments or a gift as part of an estate plan. Gifts can also be made online at oslchurch.com.

The Foundation frequently receives gifts to honor someone special who has passed or for occasions such as a birthday or anniversary. The following gifts have been received during 2026:

Please contact the church office or one of the Foundation board members if you have questions or need assistance.

In Honor of	Donor	In Honor of	Donor
Sally Ensberg	Glenn and Cindy Wika	Carol Nielsen	Jay and Laura Ericson
Marv Jensen	Curt and Elaine Sandvall	Carol Nielsen	Joe and Libby Traxel
Marv Jensen	Wendy Hasche	Carol Nielsen	Scott McMartin Angela Hanson
Marv Jensen	Gayle Hooper	Sue Salem	Steve and Susan Hauff
Carol Nielsen	Paul and Madeleine Jahr	Dick Kinsley	Gary and Darlene Murra
Carol Nielsen	Arlean Jensen	Shelley Fetters	David Fetters
Carol Nielsen	Ann Jost	Dorothy Eide	Paul and Madeleine Jahr
Carol Nielsen	Steven and Gretchen Palmer	Pastor Greg Johnson	James and Carol Oakland
Carol Nielsen	Phyllis Harmsen	Dale Leslie	Ruth Olsen
Carol Nielsen	Robert and LuAnn Decker	Richard Sundem	Steve and Susan Hauff
Carol Nielsen	Jerry and Jill Franken	Jim Jarman, Don Hooper	Roger White
Carol Nielsen	Richard and Janice Boe		

OSL Serving at Church on the Street in August

Mark your calendars! OSL has the privilege of hosting Church on the Street on Saturday, August 8, at Heritage Park. Church on the Street is a wonderful opportunity to gather as a community, worship together, and share God's love through hospitality and service. Following worship, OSL will be serving a meal, and we invite everyone to come and be a part of this meaningful day.

There will be opportunities to volunteer and lend a hand, as well as simply show up and enjoy fellowship with our neighbors. More details about the day's schedule and ways to help will be shared in the coming weeks, so stay tuned!



909 West 33rd Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

(605) 336-2942
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Contact Information

Church Office 605-336-2942 info@oslchurch.com

Rev. Michael Stadtmueller - Lead Pastor
• mstadtmueller@oslchurch.com

Rev. Tim Lemme - Pastor of Spiritual Care Ministries
• tlemme@oslchurch.com

Rev. Nancy Rieke – Associate Pastor
• nrieke@oslchurch.com

Gene LeVasseur – Director of Worship and Music
• glevasseur@oslchurch.com

Madeline Trosvig – Director of Faith Formation
• mtrosvig@oslchurch.com

Rudy Kreyer – Director of Church Operations
• rkreyer@oslchurch.com

Lori Strobl – Church Operations Coordinator
• lstrobl@oslchurch.com

Tim Schavee - Manager of Property & Facilities
• tschavee@oslchurch.com

Ainsley Swanstrom - Marketing & Office Professional
• aswanstrom@oslchurch.com

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 10:30 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.