



A New Season of Becoming



In many ways September feels like the beginning of the year. The calendar insists that January marks a fresh start, but fall has its own way of inviting us into new rhythms. School begins and schedules fill. Choirs rehearse. Ministry groups reconnect. Maybe summer is a slower pace but in the fall we find a rhythm.

Rhythm is a good way to look it because this season offers us more than an opportunity to become busier. It offers us an opportunity to become more intentional. Many of us have a to do list. The proverbial "What do I need to get done?" list. It feels good to cross things off your list and there is a place for that list. But I invite you to reframe a checklist with a different question - "Who is God inviting me to become?" That is, after all, what discipleship is about. Following Jesus is not simply adding one more activity to an already crowded calendar. It is allowing Christ to shape our hearts, our relationships, and the way we move through the world.

This fall, our congregation will gather around the theme *The Light Between Us*. In a world that often encourages us to withdraw into camps, defend our positions, or view one another with suspicion, the gospel invites us to be people of the way of Jesus. Christ's light can be revealed in moments of private faith, but more often in worshiping together, serving together, listening, asking honest questions, and learning to love our neighbors more deeply.

Over the coming months, we have some amazing opportunities. Take a look at all that is happening and consider how these events might be an invitation not only to you, but to your neighbor. We have a light to share. Join us for Bible Study. Join one of our music groups. Show up for church 30 minutes before and 30 minutes after to find ways to connect. While each event has its own purpose, they all point toward the same invitation: to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ and to help one another do the same.

As you look at your calendar and events this fall, I encourage you to leave room not only for activities but for transformation. Ask yourself:

- Where is God inviting me to grow?
- What practice might help deepen my faith?
- Who might God be calling me to know, encourage, or serve?
- What new thing might the Holy Spirit be doing in me this season?

My prayer is that this fall will be more than a return to rhythm and routine. May it become a season of becoming: becoming more rooted in God's love, more courageous in hope, more generous in service, and more committed to walking together as the body of Christ. Grace and peace,
Pastor Michael Stadtmueller

OSL at Church on the Street

It was a joy to worship together, grow in community, and serve with Church on the Street in August! Thank you to all who joined us for this meaningful time!



Beyond The Surface Bible Study

You are invited to join Pastor Michael for his next Bible Study: Beyond The Surface! Beneath familiar stories and well-known passages in Scripture are surprising insights about God, our neighbors, and ourselves. Throughout this year, each three-week conversation will explore one question that helps us move beyond the surface and discover a richer, deeper faith. Each conversation stands on its own, so whether you attend one study or all six, you'll find a welcoming place to learn, ask questions, and grow in faith.

Together we'll discover that Scripture is not simply a collection of ancient stories. It is an invitation to see the world, our relationships, and even ourselves through God's eyes. As we look more deeply, we'll uncover surprising connections, fresh perspectives, and deeper insights that bring familiar passages to life in new ways.

Whether you're new to Bible study or have been reading Scripture for years, Beyond the Surface is an opportunity to slow down, look again, and discover the depth and beauty of God's Word. You are invited to join us as we move beyond the surface and encounter the heart of God in fresh and meaningful ways. In our first three-week session, we'll discuss "The Heart of God" on **Tuesdays at 7pm and Thursdays at 11am, beginning September 22nd and 24th.**

Peace by Piece Quilting

Join the OSL Peace by Piece quilting ministry during the OSL Ministry Fair on Saturday and Sunday, September 12th and 13th! Come see how the Holy Spirit moves among us, turning simple fabrics, threads and compassion into tangible gifts of warmth and encouragement to those we may never even meet. There will be a blessing of the quilts, and for those who will receive them, plus our quilting ministry itself will be uplifted. Come join the fun! Call the Church Office for more information, and to find out more about how you can support, or even be part of, our Peace by Piece quilting ministry.

Kick-Off Sunday, September 13!

Summer is winding down, backpacks are coming out, calendars are filling up, and before we know it, fall will be in full swing. That's why we're excited to kick off a new ministry season with our annual Kick-Off Sunday on September 13!

Join us for a Free Breakfast! We're continuing our 80th Anniversary Celebration with a delicious free breakfast from 9:30 AM-11:00 AM. It's a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends, welcome new faces, and enjoy some fellowship together.

We're excited to welcome our Sunday School kids and families back for another great year! To make time for everyone to enjoy the Kick-Off Sunday breakfast, Sunday School will have a special schedule that morning. We'll meet in the Hub at 10:15 AM and wrap up by 10:45 AM. Together, we'll kick off the year by touring our Sunday School classrooms, meeting teachers and leaders, going over what to expect this year, playing a fun game, and singing a song together! Whether your family is returning to Sunday School or joining us for the first time, this is a great chance for kids to get comfortable with the space and get excited for the year ahead!

Explore the Ministry Fair! Have you ever wondered what happens behind the scenes in our church? Are you looking for a place to connect, serve, or grow? Our Ministry Fair is your chance to discover the many opportunities available for every age, interest, and gifting. From worship and hospitality to children's ministries, Bible studies, outreach, the OSL Community Library, and so much more, you'll see how God is working through our church family and where He may be calling you to get involved. Don't just attend church... be part of what makes ministry happen!

First Fruits Automatic Giving. As schedules become busier with school, activities, and fall commitments, we also encourage you to consider enrolling in First Fruits Automatic Giving. Electronic giving provides a simple and consistent way to support the ministry of our church. Contributions can be scheduled weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly. If you would like to sign up, you can contact the Church Office.

On Kick-Off Sunday, we'll have information and volunteers available to help you:

- Learn about Ministry opportunities
- Enroll in First Fruits Automatic Giving
- Sign up to serve
- Find your next step in Faith and Fellowship



Let's make this fall a season of connection, service, and spiritual growth. We encourage every member to take at least one new step this year. Mark your calendars, bring your appetite, and bring your family. We can't wait to celebrate with you, see you on Kick-Off Sunday, September 13!

New Member Class

Interested in becoming a member? Want to know more about Our Savior's? Sign up at the Welcome Desk or this QR code, and join us at 10am between worship services in October.

October 11th: Getting to know you - led by Pastor Tim

October 18th: Church Identity - led by Pastor Michael

October 25th: Tour of ministry areas

November 1st: New Member Recognition (all services)



What's in Your Backpack?

People of every age go through life with a backpack of things they take with them. Of course, we think of our little ones each fall as they pack necessities into their shoulder-strapped bags to make sure they are ready for school.

I enjoy children's sermons in late August when the very young eagerly come up front and tell you what they have in their backpacks: color crayons, pencils, markers, paper, glue sticks, a small pack of tissues for that first runny nose, etc....everything so that they are ready for what comes throughout their days. "I have what I need" is a well packed backpack. It's how you survive.

Confirmands are not little kids anymore. It is a good time in life to think more broadly. We will work to teach our confirmation students that there is a better way to be ready for what is to come. They will again be invited to remember that as the ones who are sent by Jesus into this world, they will need to pack their backpacks for themselves and for others. They will need to carry in their lives things, and abilities and convictions that are their own for their own sakes (survive) but also a goodly share of holdings that will be shared with others along the way (thrive).

I am thankful to be invited back for now a third fall of working with OSL 6th through 9th graders and their parents. We will in 2026-2027 dive deeply into what can be called "The Basics of Faith:" a full unit of learning about elemental teachings (i.e. grace, and forgiveness and vocation (one's life calling) in the hearing of the Word and an eight week study of the Lord's Prayer.) All the while the kids will more deeply involve themselves in the worship and servant life of the congregation.

These dates are already marked in red on our Confirmation September calendars:

- Wednesday, September 9th, 6:00 p.m. **Confirmation Kickoff night.** Our 6th-9th graders and their parents will meet to finalize registration, receive new learning materials and the calendar for the year. Signups for youth and parents both will be made available in support of fall events.
- Wednesday, September 16th, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. **MOVIE NIGHT!** Madeline said she will pop the popcorn! We will announce guide groups for the year, have our opening prayer and then watch the widely acclaimed, Rick Steves documentary on the Protestant Reformation. It will provide a wonderful backdrop to this year's study of Luther and Lutheran doctrine.
- Wednesday, September 30th, 6:00 p.m, into our small groups we go. Our **Ministry Fair** night will be important. Everyone gather at 6:00 p.m. to "build" their small group table in the Hub, to be ready to get going with class. Madeline will teach the class and then other ministry leaders will come and host a ministry fair where our kids can figure out where in the church they would like to serve.

Let's say it again. Everyone of every age goes through life with backpacks full. The "I Send You" Confirmation question is whether your intentions are for yourself only or for others as well. A good study of the basics of faith will help our young learn to see and serve others and to be amazed at how good life can be.

With thanks,

Pastor Greg Johnson



Thank You Volunteers!

Thank you to everyone who served at The Banquet with us in August!



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.



Serve Sioux Falls Weekend

What a great Serve Sioux Falls Weekend! OSL joined with youth from Watertown for a weekend full of service, faith, and fun! Together we served at The Banquet, Church on the Street, and St. Francis House. We made time for some relaxing fun too! We're grateful for this awesome group of young people and time spent serving our neighbors and growing together!



Library Updates

Your OSL Community Library is in full swing with many projects & events on the horizon!

*We will return to our Wednesday hours of 9am-6pm beginning Sept. 16th & our Sunday hours will return to 9:30am-12:15pm beginning Sept. 13th.

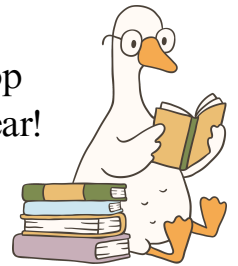
*A Book Talk with Pastor Michael & Kristie will happen **Thursday, Sept. 17th @1pm**. Our book will be *Disciples of White Jesus* written by Angela Denker who will be visiting OSL to speak in person at the beginning of October. We do have a copy in the library to check out as well as a few to purchase for \$5.

*ABC with Kristie is bringing the Christmas spirit on December 1st with author Emersyn Park and her new release *Boycotting Christmas!*

*We have an author already secured for Beyond the Books 2027! Details to come!

*We are looking forward to the OSL Kick Off on Sunday, September 13th! Please stop by our table and see if there is anything you would like to volunteer for this coming year!

*Kristie is grateful for recently celebrating 2 years as the OSL Community Library Coordinator and is looking forward to many more with our amazing community of patrons, volunteers and staff!



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/



OSL Women's Retreat | September 26th



We all have a story, don't we? A story of God's grace in our lives; a story of pain survived, a story to strengthen another. Stories are gifts we give and gifts we receive. OSL is excited to offer a space to listen and to tell stories in a special women's retreat, Saturday, September 26, 9:30am - 3pm, as we welcome Carla Diede, a trained Narrative4 Story Exchange Facilitator from the SD Synod.

As the Narrative4 website explains, "Through the simple but powerful practice of sharing and retelling one another's stories, participants build empathy, deepen relationships, and discover new connections across generations and experiences. As people listen deeply and speak honestly, they often discover a glimpse of what it means to see one another as beloved children of God." In addition to sharing our own stories, we will have the opportunity to hear from our OSL Librarian Kristie Schreck, as well as Pastor Laura Phillips of St. Dysmas sharing her personal story of growth. We will have the opportunity to share our stories through music with our own Jen Gran Hicks, a board certified music therapist with Joyful Noises, LLC. Morning coffee and lunch will be provided. RSVP with suggested donation of \$15 (to cover lunch) by September 16 to the Church Office.

Friendship Club: Alzheimer's Awareness | October 6th

September is Alzheimer's awareness month. A time dedicated to educating the public and challenging social stigmas of the disease. According to Alzheimer's Association, "In South Dakota, more than 16,500 people are living with Alzheimer's. 29,000 caregivers dedicate 33,000,000 hours of unpaid care."

You're invited to join us for Friendship Club on October 6th at 11:00 AM for a presentation by an educator with Alzheimer's Association of South Dakota. The education topic is "Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia." This is a great opportunity to learn, ask questions and share your own experiences with Alzheimer's disease and Dementia. Lunch will follow the presentation at 12:00 PM. We hope to see you there!

There's Still Time to Join OSL Kids Club!

OSL Kids Club is kicking off on September 9th, and there's still time to sign up! Kids Club is our new Wednesday after-school program for OSL children preschool through 5th grade, meeting Wednesdays from 3:30–5:30 PM. Each week will feel a little like a mini-VBS, with kids moving through music, art or games, and Bible-based activities while building friendships and growing in faith. Families are also invited to stick around for our Wednesday evening meal beginning at 5:30 PM. Kids Club is free, and we'd love to have your child join us for our first fall session! Sign up today by going to oslchurch.com/signup and filling out the Kids Club Registration.



Finance Updates

This 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 for the first month of our new Fiscal Year.

This is a typical July based on prior years, as our General Offerings are right in line with July of 2025. As summer comes to an end, we approach the fall season with hope, faith, and excitement for the 80th year of Our Savior's Lutheran Church!

God Bless,

Rudy Kreyer

OSL Director of Operations

OSL Statement of Activity - 7.1.26 through 7.31.26	
General Fund Offerings	\$111,553.32
Noisy Offerings	\$248.63
Building Use	\$1,237.00
Building & Renovation Fund	\$320.00
Memorials/Estate Gifts	\$10,709.30
Designated Funds	\$6,815.00
Ministry Department Donations	\$11,871.98
Total Offerings: July 2026	\$142,755.23

Facility Expenses	\$34,119.45
Administration Expenses	\$6,879.99
Personnel Expenses	\$85,360.25
Professional Expenses	\$1,723.86
Ministry Departments Expenses	\$10,475.46
Benevolence	\$14,648.57
Total Expenses: July 2026	\$153,207.58
Net Operating Income: July 2026	(\$10,452.35)

Sunday School is Back September 13th!

Written by Madeline Trosvig

Sunday School is back, and we're excited for another year of learning, growing, and sharing God's light together! Children preschool through 5th grade are invited to join us each Sunday morning downstairs for Sunday School. Please note that our nursery is open and always staffed for your children on Sunday mornings. It is located on the West end of the building, by the Sanctuary.

OSL Sunday morning flow:

8:45 AM- Celebrate Worship: Following the Kid Talk, children K-5 are invited to the Hub for a special kids' message and activity before returning to worship for the Sharing of the Peace.

10:00-10:30 AM- Sunday School: Kids head to their classrooms for Bible stories, activities, and time with their Sunday School community.

10:30-10:45 AM- Song Fest in the Hub: Stick around after Sunday School for Song Fest as we learn and sing some of our favorite faith-filled songs together!

11:00 AM- Festive Worship: Kids will stay in worship following kid talk. The nursery is open and available during this service as well.

As a reminder, September 13th is Kick-Off Sunday. The 80th Anniversary celebration continues with a free breakfast in the Gathering Place following Celebrate Worship. To make time for everyone to enjoy the Kick-Off Sunday breakfast, Sunday School will have a special schedule that morning. We'll meet in the Hub at 10:15 AM and wrap up by 10:45 AM. Together, we'll kick off the year by touring our Sunday School classrooms, meeting teachers and leaders, going over what to expect this year, playing a fun game, and singing a song together! Whether your family is returning to Sunday School or joining us for the first time, this is a great chance for kids to get comfortable with the space and get excited for the year ahead!

Potluck & Punchlines 2.0

Potluck & Punchlines 2.0 was a great evening, filled with laughter, music, lots of good food, and community! The live music from Short Notice was a hit, and Tim Boyd's comedy had the whole crowd laughing! Thank you to all who made this event possible, and to everyone who attended!



Retired Folks: Kids Club Needs You!

Written by Madeline Trosvig

This September, OSL Kids Club is kicking off on Wednesday afternoons and while this new ministry is designed for our children, I believe it holds an incredible opportunity for some of the older members of our congregation, too. One of the greatest strengths of Our Savior's is something we sometimes take for granted: we have multiple generations of people worshiping under the same roof! Not every church has that, it is a true blessing! We have young children just beginning to discover what faith means. We have Augustana across the street with young adults starting to figure out their calls in life. We have parents trying to raise children in faith. And we have adults who have spent decades experiencing God through joy, grief, change, uncertainty, family, work, and everything in between. *Our kids need to know those people.*

I often hear older members of our congregation say how much they enjoy seeing children in worship. They love hearing their voices, watching them come forward for the Kid Talk, and seeing them grow up in the church. And I love that! But I want to challenge us to take the next step: Don't just watch our kids grow up. **Grow with them.** Learn their names! Ask about school! Sit next to them while they work on an art project! Help serve them a snack! Listen to their stories! Tell them one of yours! Be another adult in their life who knows them, cares about them, and reminds them simply by showing up that they belong here.

Faith was never meant to be formed alone. Some of the people who have the greatest impact on a child's faith may not be their parent, pastor, or Sunday School teacher, but someone generations ahead of them who takes an interest in their life and shows them what a lifetime of faith can look like. For me, that person was Linda Mellon, a woman from my home church who always said hello, asked what was happening in my life, remembered what I told her, and invited me to serve alongside her in the church. As I grew up, I looked forward to sharing my accomplishments with Linda, and there is something incredibly special about knowing that someone who has no obligation to pray for you chooses to because they truly know and love you. I want our kids to find their "Linda Mellons"—people who know their names, cheer them on, pray for them, and show them through their own lives what it means to walk in faith. We don't want to be a church that only ministers to children, nor do we want to be a church that only ministers to older adults. We want to be a church where generations know one another. Kids Club gives us a wonderful opportunity to make that happen.

You don't need to be able to run around the gym. You don't need to know how to teach a Bible lesson. You don't even need to commit to every Wednesday. There are so many ways to be part of Kids Club. We need folks helping with snacks, sitting alongside kids during activities, sharing a hobby or skill, helping with a special project, driving for a field trip, greeting children as they arrive, or simply being another caring adult who is excited to see them each week.

If you're retired and wondering whether there might be a place for you in Kids Club, I especially want to invite you to join me for lunch at OSL on Wednesday, September 2, at noon. We'll eat together, talk about Kids Club, and explore ways you can be involved that fit your interests, abilities, and schedule. There is no commitment required, just come and learn more. If you can't make it, reach out to Madeline. She'd love to talk over coffee! Our children already know that you love seeing them at church. Now let's give them the chance to know you, too!

Augustana University Football Faith Day | September 19

Discounted tickets are offered for members of faith communities to attend the Augustana football game on Saturday, September 19th. Enjoy a pre-game tailgating experience with the Augustana GOD POD. Purchase tickets at goaugie.com/faithday.



FAITH DAY

AUGUSTANA VIKING FOOTBALL

Saturday, Sept. 19th
1:00 PM

VS



**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW AT
GOAUGIE.COM/FAITHDAY**



Join us pre-game to tailgate at Augleville on the east side of KO Stadium with the GOD POD, Augustana's new mobile recording studio. Share your story with us and receive a free lunch ticket!

**\$10 TICKETS
\$6 YOUTH TICKETS
FOR THE FAITH COMMUNITY**

Augustana Chapel Rededication | September 18th

On Friday, September 18th, Augustana University will dedicate their newly renovated and expanded Chapel of Reconciliation. All are invited to join the worship and dedication service at 10am. Learn more and RSVP at augie.edu/chapelsvp.

On the Road Together

Written by Pastor Nancy Rieke

“Anyone who thinks sitting in church can make you a Christian must also think that sitting in a garage can make you a car.” — Garrison Keillor

I'm sure we can all agree that sitting in a church on Sunday does not make us a Christian....but it certainly helps keep us on the right road! Summer is typically a time when we're a little more relaxed about our church attendance. We're busier and our long winters give us a roaring thirst for anything outdoors. We visit, we camp, we travel, we fish.... and we are thankful God is in the midst of all of this. Hopefully you've enjoyed the opportunity to worship in different ways and in different places.

September is here, however, and somehow we all transition back to a regular schedule, even if we don't have children in school. There are lots of opportunities to be together, to learn, grow and volunteer this fall. Everyone is welcome; everyone has a place here.



Augustana Choir & Bach Collegium | September 27th

OSL is excited to host the next Augustana Choir & Bach Collegium on Sunday, September 27th at 7pm.

The fall concert theme is *Be Still and Know*. Everyone is invited to join us for an evening of incredible music at OSL. Tickets are available for purchase on Augustana's website or at this QR code.



Outside Our Walls: September Partnerships

Back to School not only means students here in Sioux Falls will be returning to school; it's also time for seminary students to start a new semester! Outside Our Walls is excited to welcome Mike Johnson from Wartburg Theological Seminary and Lisa Cohen from Luther Seminary to Our Savior's on Sunday, September 20th at 10am. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about our ELCA seminaries, the importance of a seminary education, how students are placed, tuition or anything else, please bring your questions and join us between services in the Friendship Room.

Preparing for a Weekend with Angela Denker

Join us this fall as we prepare for a community-wide conversation about Christian nationalism, discipleship, and hope. Each gathering offers a unique opportunity to learn, reflect, and grow.

Pre-Events

Thursday, September 3rd at 7pm

Faith & Ferment at Roundhouse Brew Pub
Focus: Finding Common Ground in a Polarized World

- How do we remain curious, compassionate, and connected across our differences?

Thursday, September 17th at 1pm

Book Discussion: Disciples of White Jesus
By Angela Denker

- Read and discuss Angela Denker's newest book before she arrives.

Thursday, October 1st at 7pm

Faith & Ferment at Roundhouse Brew Pub
Focus: Framing Conversations of Hope

- Bring your questions, your curiosity, and your hopes as together we shape the conversations ahead.

Weekend with Angela Denker

Saturday, October 3rd at 6:30 pm

Gathering Place

Finding Our Bearings: Recognizing Christian Nationalism while Following Jesus Faithfully

- Includes audience conversation and Q&A.

Sunday, October 4th

8:45am: Worship (One service)

10:15am: A Conversation with Angela Denker in the Celebrate Center

- 30-45 minute presentation
- 30 minute Q and A

Sunday, October 4th at 6:30pm

Augustana Chapel Gathering Place

Finding Your Bearings

- Faith, Identity, and Hope in a Polarized World

Monday, October 5th at 10am

Augustana University Chapel

- Angela Denker preaching at morning Chapel

Chorus-pondence from Worship

Written by Gene LeVasseur, Director of Worship

Greetings Friends in Christ,

“It’s not about you.” This is the first sentence in Rick Warren’s book “The Purpose Driven Life,” and boy did it get my attention. The world fills us with reasons that we should think the opposite, it’s all about you, and I for one am grateful for Rick’s book.

The cool thing about The Purpose Driven Life is that you learn that when to give yourself to God and people you start to live your best possible life and it’s about you too! If you want to live your best possible life I pray that you will look at the worship ministry opportunities below and identify at least one team that you will try for one month. The word Worship is often seen as a noun but it is a verb – when you take a part in leading worship you can commune with God even more deeply and spiritually. How does that feel? The answer is best described with the fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control. These feelings are deep, effecting your mental, physical, and emotional self. Live your best possible life and prayerfully consider serving on a worship team as we kick-off fall on September 13th.

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 (texts on the screens).

TV Production – operating cameras and/or the sound board.

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

Cantors – singers that lead the music in 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.

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

The National Youth Gathering | Minneapolis 2027

Written by Madeline Trosvig

Next summer, OSL high school youth will have the opportunity to join thousands of young people from across the country for the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering! Centered around the theme “Imagine More,” the Gathering is an unforgettable experience filled with worship in the US Bank Stadium, service, learning, music, and opportunities to discover how God is calling us to imagine more for our faith, our communities, and our world! The Gathering is open to youth in 8th–12th grade for the 2026–2027 school year. Interested youth and parents are invited to our first information and registration meeting in the Hub on **Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 PM**. We’ll share more about the trip, what to expect, costs, registration, fundraising, and answer questions. If you’re even a little curious about going, come learn more! We’d love to have you along!

Egypt 2027 Interest Meeting | September 27th

Interested in learning more about our upcoming journey to Egypt? Join Pastor Michael for a brief 45-minute information meeting on **September 27th at 12pm** in the Friendship Room. We will discuss the itinerary, travel logistics, costs, and what makes this pilgrimage unique. There will be plenty of time for questions, and no commitment is required. If you've been thinking about the trip, or just want to see if it's right for you, this is the perfect opportunity to learn more. Sign up at the Welcome Center or scan this QR code!



SOSA Supporting our Students at Augie!

Written by Madeline Trosvig

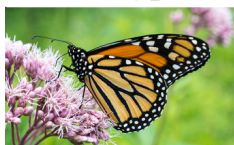
Through our SOSA (Study or Serve Award) fund, Our Savior's Lutheran Church is grateful to support OSL members continuing their education at Augustana University. Each semester, SOSA provides a \$250 scholarship, which is then matched by Augustana University, doubling our congregation's support for these students. This year, we are proud to support Sean Kelly, Aubrie Lehmann, Brynn Townsend, Brooklyn Townsend, Heather Hemmer, and Clark Egland as they continue their studies at Augustana. We celebrate these young adults and are grateful for the opportunity to remind them that their church family continues to walk alongside them beyond high school. May God bless their education, their growth, and all the ways they will use their gifts to serve their neighbors and the world!

Butterflies in Creation Care

Join us on September 27 to hear about Pollinators in Your Garden—Especially Monarchs! Joyce Kaatz is a noted monarch butterfly aficionado and author who will give tips on creating a welcoming habitat for pollinators. Many at OSL know Joyce for her career in nursing, but as a midwest native, she also has a real passion for nature. The Creation Care Team is delighted to sponsor this program on September 27 at 10am in the Friendship Room where we will save time for discussion and questions.

The Creation Care Team at Our Savior's focuses on the stewardship of God's creation and strives to provide information to inspire others to adopt sustainable practices. For more information, contact the Church Office.

Recently, the CC Team took a tour of the monarch butterfly research project at the Augustana greenhouse. The Team learned that the monarchs use their feet to sense or taste the milkweed in order to find a place to lay their eggs. In South Dakota they have a choice of common milkweed in the east, showy milkweed in the west or hybrid versions that occur in the middle of the state where the two types uniquely co-exist and hybridize. The monarch population has declined drastically due



in part to decreased availability of milkweed. The student-centered project is led by biology professors Steve Matzner and Carrie Olson-Manning. More info about the project can be found in the article "Milkweed Champs" by South Dakota Magazine.