



PARTNERS



DECEMBER 2025

VOLUME 37 ISSUE 12

From the
Pastor's
Desk...



The Season

Starting on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ending Christmas Eve, the Advent Season is about the interplay between light and dark. "Darkness covers the earth and thick darkness the peoples," the prophet Isaiah said. We see that evident in the longer nights of December, and we see that in the darkness of sin that encroaches upon our lives. "But on those living in the land of darkness, a Light has dawned," Isaiah continued. The message of Advent is that the Light of Christ is breaking through our darkness by his birth and will burn bright on Christmas with forgiveness and salvation, hope and joy, peace and love.

Shedding Light On Advent

The Wreath

Lighting a new candle on an Advent wreath for each of the four weeks is one way to see firsthand how light overcomes darkness. Try turning out all the lights in your home before lighting your Advent wreath each day. Notice how the light of one, two, three or four candles can really spread throughout a dark space. Say this prayer when you light your wreath: "Brighten my life with your light and salvation, dear Jesus. Amen."

Strings of Lights

During Advent we decorate our homes and Christmas trees with strings of white or multicolored bulbs. Lights like these can change an ordinary room into a spectacular showplace. They can turn a barren fir into a twinkling wonderment. When you string up lights this Advent, remember that Christ the Light has the power to transform plain old you and me into shimmering displays of his glory and grace. Jesus even said, "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl." Say this prayer while you put up your lights: "Let your light shine through me to others. Amen."

**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
November 5, 2025**

These minutes were recorded at the last council meeting and will be approved at the next meeting.

The OSLC Church Council met for its monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 5, 2025 in the fellowship hall. Members present were Chad Coulter, Chad Beranek, Kari Halter, Deb Furth, Kris Vollmer, Janice Werner, John Smith, Steve Halter, Justina Erickson and Pastor Tom Sahl.

Guest: Julie Senst

President Coulter called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and Pastor Tom led the group in prayer.

Secretary's Report: Kari moved to approve the minutes from September as corrected and sent out by email. John Seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Kari reported the October checking balance of \$11,911.61 and savings balance of \$61,703.98. On a motion by Chad B and seconded by John, the treasurer's report was approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Tom Sahl reported holding confirmation classes and making 5 visits. He conducted 1 funeral service. He and his wife attended the LCMC convention in Lakeville, MN. Confirmation classes for Wednesday, Nov. 12, will be cancelled due to parent/teacher conferences at the school.

Committee Reports:

Education: Justina reported that the Board of Ed met on Oct. 22 and they are working on the Christmas program to be held Sunday, Dec. 14. Prayer Partners will meet on Sunday, November 16, 2025 after the church service. Prayer partners will also meet Feb. 8, 2026 and March 29, 2026.

Worship and Music: Janice reported they had no meeting, but will meet on Wed. Nov. 12, 2026.



Life, Growth & Stewardship: Kris reported that they met on Monday, Nov. 3, 2026. They set the monthly missions for 2026. If funds are available they also designated the endowment fund donation. There will be a supper before the Ash Wednesday service on Feb. 18, but no other Lenten meals. They decided that OSLC will sponsor a family for Share the Spirit and will attempt to engage the youth group and Sunday School children. The 2024 funds remaining for Bible Camperships will be given to the general fund to be used with budgeted funds for camperships. The pool lesson fund has \$880. This will be in the newsletter in March to assist those in need.

Property: John reported that the boiler installation is complete and is up and running. The linoleum has been installed on the Southwest church entrance. The toilet in the ladies restroom has been replaced because it wasn't working. At the parsonage, the shower head needs attention, as well as the bathroom sink and a possible installation of a door or gate in front of the basement stairs in the kitchen.

Old Business:

Call committee update

Because our candidates haven't worked out, the call committee is starting over and has reposted the position.

Overflow refresh update: The committee met on Sunday, Nov. 2 after church. New swinging poster boards that hold the confirmation pictures have been ordered. The Pastor pictures that were in the overflow will be taken out of their frames and put with the confirmation pictures or be put in new matching frames. The plaque with pastor names will be updated. There are items in the hallway to give away. Decals for both entry doors on the south side will be ordered, one with a welcome sign and the other with church info on it. Collage pictures from the previous directory will be hung in fellowship hall. A paper roll for the overflow will be hung for people to write on for different reasons. After the above mentioned items, there will be about \$750 left in their budget. When everything is complete, the committee would like to have a dedication/thank you celebration to highlight what has been done.

Council Minutes Continued...

New Business

Summary of LCMC gathering:

A summary was written and put in the November newsletter. Next year's gathering will be in Des Moines, Iowa.

Nov 16 worship service:

Pastor Ritchie Cole, a potential pastoral candidate, who was scheduled to do our service on Nov.16, has taken another call and will not be coming.

Request from Julie Senst, representing the Cathy Hoffbeck fundraising event:

Julie requested use of the parsonage garage for storage for raffle and auction items for the fundraiser. Has already talked to Pastor Tom about it and he offered to put some things in the house as well. Steve H moved to allow the fundraising committee to store raffle and auction items at the parsonage before the fundraising event. Kris seconded. Motion carried.

Hymnals:

Hymnals may need to be redistributed more evenly, especially towards the front of the church for funerals and other special occasions.

Custodial items:

The annual review for the custodian will be held in the next few weeks.

Confirmation Retreat:

Need to determine how much is available/ attendee for the confirmation retreat in March from the church and how much a family might have to pay. We need to look into this further by our next meeting.

CD's of church services to Springfield:

Steve H has been taking service CD's to Springfield, but will be retiring the first of the year, so we should look for someone else to do this.

Communion Assistants

Congregation members are encouraged to sign up on the bulletin board outside the offices if they would like to assist with communion.
November 9 – Steve H and Kari H

Council Minutes Continued...

Adjournment

With no further business to conduct, Chad B moved to adjourn and Steve seconded.

Motion carried.

Adjourned at 8:25 PM. Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Furth

Council Secretary



PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along to the Prayer Chain, please contact Judy Kuehl, 507-822-1716, or the church office. Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer chain and/or included in Sunday morning prayers which will be included for two (2) Sundays unless request is renewed. Thank you.

DECEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS

~Lamberton City Cemetery~

Donations are used to support the Lamberton Cemetery board in maintaining the cemetery and developing projects.

A second directory may be added in the future as the first one is full.

If you desire to support our mission, please use the envelopes provided in the pews and mark the envelopes, "Lamberton Cemetery". You can put them into the offering plate. You may also give your donation online via our website or use the link below and select 'mission'.

<https://oslclamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>
Your contributions are greatly appreciated!!
Thanks for your support!





BUDGET RECAP
as of 11/16/2025

Total Outstanding:	
Accounts Payable	\$0
Estimated Payroll	\$4,000.00
Income:	
10/19/25— 11/16/25	\$20,925.32
In Checking Acct.	\$25,453.90
In Savings Acct.	\$61,703.98
Needed weekly to Meet budget	\$2,824.62

Online Giving

To assist you with your stewardship ministry, you may make a gift online! You may visit our website or use the link.

<https://osleclamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>

You may still mail checks to the church office.
**Address found on last page of newsletter.*



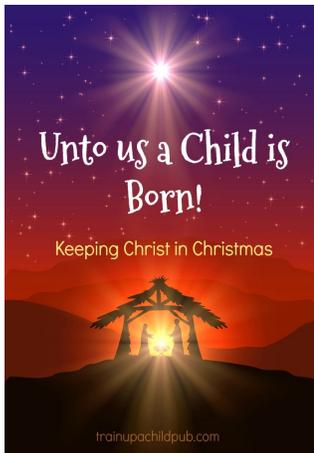
MAKE A Noisy Offering

"JOYFUL NOISE!" Noisy offering collected in October was \$90.13!

Loose change Sunday is held the 2nd Sunday of each month. Funds collected are donated to the mission of the month!



**Annual Meeting
January 25, 2025**



DECEMBER ACOLYTE & VIDEO SCHEDULE
9:00 A.M.
Worship Service



December 7, 2025
Lindsey Guggisberg & Levi Jeckell
Video: Kylee Leonard

December 14, 2025 @ 10:30am
Sunday School Christmas Program
TBD
Video: Braedon Mariner

Sunday, December 21, 2025
Isaac Wondercheck
Video: Lindsey Guggisberg

Tuesday, December 24, 2025
5 PM CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
Grifyn Redman & Dawson Rue
Video: Halle Paplow



December 28, 2025
Abby Thram
Video: Bentley Werner

Please remember it is your responsibility to find a replacement for your designated worship service. Thank you!!



Our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of **David Egenes**
May the strength and hope of God's love be theirs.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
REMINDERS:**

**Christmas Program & Rehearsal
Schedule**

Parents, thank you for sharing your children with us!

Practice for the Christmas Program will be held after church services on:

- November 23
- November 30
- December 7

Please make every effort to have your children attend—these rehearsals are essential. Practices may run slightly longer than regular class times as we work on songs, costumes, and speaking parts. Feel free to watch from the back—it's exciting (and a little nerve-racking!) to see it all come together.

If your child will **not** be at the **December 14 program at 10:30 AM**, please notify their teacher, Courtney Thram, or the church office.

Program Details

- **Date:** Sunday, December 14
- **Time:** 10:30 AM
- **Arrival:** Please have children arrive **30 minutes prior** to the program.

Share the Spirit Project

LGS will be sponsoring two families through Share the Spirit, and we'd love to include Sunday School in this project!

- Please have your child bring **loose change or a dollar bill** to Sunday School on **November 30**.

We'll also be looking for a **volunteer to shop for gifts** for two children.

Thank you for helping us spread joy this season!

Christmas Break

No Sunday School classes on **December 21** and **December 28**.
Enjoy your Christmas break!



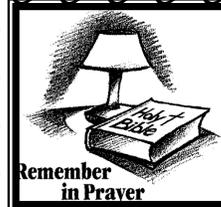
OSLC Sunday School presents:

One Night in Bethlehem
Sunday, December 14
10:30 AM

Join us afterward for a **potluck dinner!** Ham, buns, beverages, and cake will be provided.



Please bring a side dish to share and enjoy food and fellowship.



Please note our list of people needing our prayers regularly. This list is much more complete since it addresses ongoing

issues while the Sunday bulletin list is aimed at more immediate concerns. We ask that you would keep all these people in your prayers each day.

- Dennis Theis (cancer radiation treatments)
- Abe Neuharth, Pastor Tom & Sandy's grandson (surgery @ SF heart hospital)
- Diane Nalley (health concerns)
- Ray Arkell (leg blood cot)
- Briana (Halter) Peterson (cancer surgery)
- Ruth Churchill (health issues)
- Pastor Cathy Tetric Hoffbeck (recovery)
- Jean Lange (health concerns)
- Jeffrey Kuehl (health issues)
- Nancy Rue (health issues)
- Randy Hammerschmidt (health issue)



Pray for people affected by other disasters ...



Community Red Cross Blood Drive

The Red Cross Lamberton community blood drive will be Tuesday, Dec 2, 2025, from noon to 6 PM at the Lamberton Legion.

If you are interested in donating and would like an appointment for that day, please contact Deb Furth @ 507-227-3293, Jan Benedict @ 507-221-1966, or make your appointment on-line at www.redcross.org.

Getting close to the holidays, so what a great gift you could give by donating blood. Homemade treats and cash donations for the canteen are also greatly appreciated.



DECEMBER ALTAR GUILD

Janice Werner
Susan Jeckell

Our Savior's Women Group News



Our Savior's Women met November 11, 2025. We started a new Bible study on Paul's Letters to the Philippians.

Secretary & Treasurer's reports were given. Because of a generous donation to the sewing group, Elaine will purchase supplies. A motion was made to provide 2 poinsettias at Christmas time.

We have a new mop located in the kitchen under the sink.

The monies from the Thankoffering was designated as follows:

- Cemetery \$300
- Ambulance \$400
- Union Gospel Mission \$200
- Green Lake Bible Camp \$100
- Shetek Bible Camp \$100
- Table Ministry \$200
- WAFER \$300
- Hospice \$400

Thank you to all who helped support these places!

Merry Christmas



Judie Harnack, Secretary

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

*"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on
whom His favor rest." (Luke 2:14)*

Advent is a season of anticipation - a season of waiting, praying, serving, and living as a witness to God's reign in this world.

Our traditional Christmas Eve Candle Light Service will be held at 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, December 24th. We will have the Sacrament of Holy Communion along with the celebration of the Birth of Christ.

We invite you to bring your families. The day has finally come. All the waiting, prayers, hopes, dreams, struggles, joy, and pain is over. We've made it to the manger. We've made it to the fulfillment of God's promise and prophecies. The Savior has been born and we can all celebrate!

Wishing You a
Happy Birthday!

December Birthdays

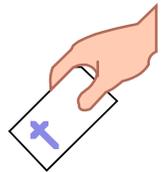
1st - Tim Osland
 2nd - Cole Werner, Casey Vogel
 3rd - Justin Kreuger, O Detta Manthei
 4th - Avery Anderson
 5th - Deb Lingle, Katie Gisch
 6th - Chad Beranek, Cory Churchill
 7th - William Buetow
 8th - Janine Frank
 9th - Mikaela Erickson, Amelia Gisch
 10th - Jedidiah Kronback, Jaxon Anderson
 11th - Perry Kronback
 13th - Stephanie Mattison, Jon Bergemann
 14th - Vernon Pfarr
 15th - Larry Kronback
 16th - Alayna Erickson, Asher Erickson, Kali Bedner
 18th - Chad Coulter, Jaden Prechel, Derek Werner, Scarlet Carter
 20th - Lisa Willhite, Kysha Wani
 21st - Ron Koch, Cooper Churchill
 23rd - Hailey Teveldal
 25th - Heather Brand, Reagan Pfarr
 26th - Sean Burns, Jordan Vollmer
 27th - Char Graff, Drake Neperman
 29th - Morgan Mattison, Steve Wegman

December Anniversary Celebration

15th - Charlie & Bonnie Peterson
 20th - Leon & Jan Benedict
 22nd - Kent & Leah Teveldal

2025 Contributions

The financial personnel please ask that you have your 2025 contributions into the church office on



Sunday, January 4, 2026

to allow them to credit your accounts and process those reports for the Annual Meeting in a timely fashion.



All contributions for 2025 given after the new year MUST be marked as '2025 Giving'.

Thank you!!

DECEMBER USHER SCHEDULE

John Smith
 Ryan Wondercheck
 Kevin Juhnke
 Dave (Jill) Irlbeck



Justin Thram—Sub



TAXI
 Please call an usher by Fridays for a ride!

~ Hospitalized ~

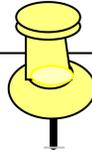
Because of privacy laws, a phone call from a family member or friend is the best way to make sure the pastor is notified if you or a loved one are hospitalized or in a nursing home or would like a pastoral visit.

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Be sure to stop and pick up your 2026 offering envelopes in the overflow!

If you do not see one with your name, please let Mike or Kris Vollmer know.

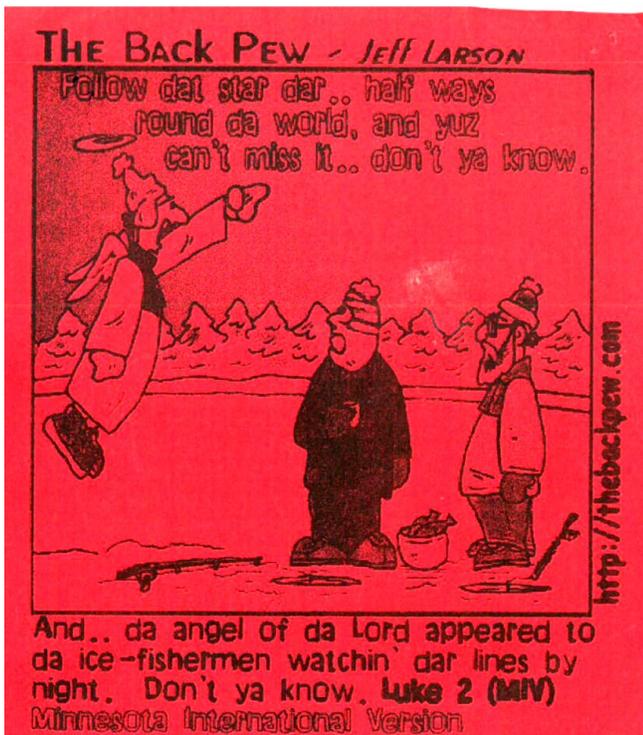
We pray that all will consider the stewardship of sharing what God has given us to meet the needs of our congregation and community.



Annual Report

ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE BY SUNDAY, JANUARY 4TH!!!

Please have them emailed or dropped off at the church office. Thanks!
This does not include financial reports—they are needed as soon as that information has been attained.



Media System Operator Schedule

December 7, 2025	Chad Beranek (605-421-1290)
December 14, 2025	Jodi Smith (507-360-8326)
December 21, 2025	Ethan Willhite (507-640-0421)
December 24, 2025 Christmas Eve	Trenton Blomgren (507-822-6571)
December 28, 2025	Val Halter (507-276-0008)

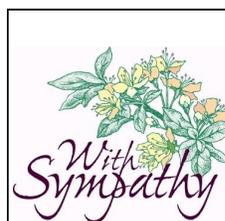


Thrivent Choice Dollars

As always, Our Savior's Lutheran Church is grateful for your consideration when you make charitable giving plans. If you are a Thrivent Financial member eligible to direct Choice Dollars, we ask you to consider our congregation as you help direct Thrivent Financial's charitable funds. For more information about how to designate Choice Dollars visit: Thrivent.com/choicevote or call 800-847-4836.

NOMINATING TEAM

Can't believe it is that time of year already but it is! The Nominating Team will be working on finding candidates for different positions on the council. When they call you, say Yes!". Also, members for other teams are needed. Contact the chairperson of the various Teams if you would like to be part of a Team.



Our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of **Ruth Clarken** May the strength and hope of God's love be theirs.

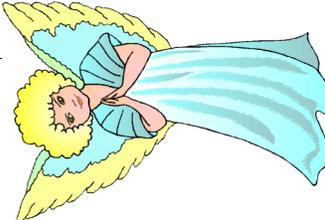
JESUS is
the Reason
for the
Season.

DECEMBER 2025



Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Please have your bulletin Announcements into the Church Office by 10 A.M. on TUESDAYS! THANKS!

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Offices Closed</i>	2	3 3:20 8th Grade Confirmation 4:25 7th & 9th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Church Council	4	5 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study	6
7 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal Coffee Fellowship	8 <i>Offices Closed</i>	9 12 P.M. Christmas Party Potluck	10 3:20 8th Grade Confirmation 4:25 7th & 9th Grade Confirmation 6:00 Luther League Meeting	11	12 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study	13
14 10:30 A.M. Sunday School Christmas Program <i>Children please arrive at 10am</i> Potluck to follow!	15 <i>Offices Closed</i> <u>Newsletter</u> <u>Articles Due!!</u>	16	17 3:20 8th Grade Confirmation 4:25 7th & 9th Grade Confirmation	18	19 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study	20
21 9:00 Contemporary Worship <i>No Sunday School</i>	22 <i>Offices Closed</i>	23	24 <i>No Confirmation</i> 5:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service (C)	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26 <i>Offices Closed</i>	27 
28 9:00 Worship <i>No Sunday School</i>	29 <i>Offices Closed</i>	30	31 <i>No Confirmation</i>			

**OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
805 BIRCH ST
P.O. BOX 67
LAMBERTON, MN 56152-0067
507/752-7334



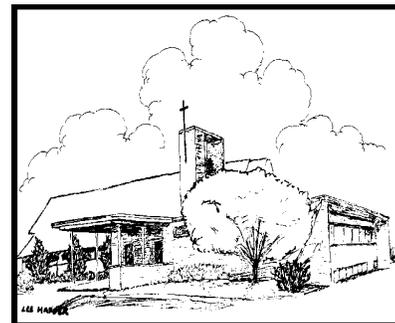
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PARTNERS

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56152-0067



Pastor Tom Sahl, Interim

Pastor Tom's Cell Phone: 402-239-9549

Church Office Hours:

9 a.m.-Noon, 1-4p.m. Tues-Thurs
Church Phone: 752-7334
Church Email:
osclamberton@centurytel.net

Worship Services:

Sundays: 9:00 A.M.
Sunday School
10:00 A.M. (Sept.-May)

Cable Broadcast of Services:

Lamberton -WED: 4:00 P.M.
Springfield -Wednesday: 6:00 P.M.



The Mission of Our Savior's Lutheran Church is to demonstrate Christ's Spirit through worship, witnessing, and ministry to the needs of the people of this church and the community.

- ◆ **Please have bulletins articles into the church office by 10am Tuesday mornings.**

+ + + + +

- ◆ **Please have your Newsletter articles or calendar items into the church office as designated on the monthly calendar.**