



Steeple Talk

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
204 East Caledonia Ave
Hillsboro, ND 58045

Volume 45; Issue 5

MAY 2025

Welcome to spring! As I write this, the sun is shining, farmers are busy with planting, and new life is springing up all around us! These are welcome and normal changes we find in May. May also brings an end to our confirmation, Sunday school, and youth group year and with it we begin church plans for the Summer.



With church planning comes discernment and prayer as we ask ourselves what God is up to in our church and in our community. One of the ways that we see God at work is in and through our youth.

With our youth in mind, we plan to continue our summer free pizza events. Over a slice of pizza on a warm summer day, these events help us to be in relationship with one another. Also, "Free Pizza Mondays" equalize the playing field. This means everyone is fed at "Free Pizza Mondays", and there is no charity. Instead, you will just find food and fun for all.

So, if you are driving past church this summer and see us out front with the pizza oven and cooler of drinks. Stop and have a slice. It may not seem like much, but we all know about the power of breaking bread together and the ways that it can fill our souls as well as our bellies.

Pastor Amanda

PASTORAL ACTS:

DEATHS:

Betty Kolanczyk

Born: February 7, 1946
Place of Birth: Fargo, ND
Died: February 27, 2025
Funeral: March 29, 2025 at OSLC
Pastor Joe Johnson, Officiating
Interment: Riverside Cemetery
Hillsboro, ND

Elizabeth "Liz" Hanson

Born: August 7, 1929
Place of Birth: Hillsboro, ND
Died: April 6, 2025
Funeral: April 14, 2025 at OSLC
Pastor Amanda Johnson, Officiating
Interment: Riverside Cemetery
Hillsboro, ND

BAPTISMS:

Lyla Lenore Troyer

Daughter of Nik and Lindsey Troyer
Born: January 5, 2025
Place: Fargo, ND
Baptized: March 30, 2025 at OSLC
Pastor Joe Johnson, Officiating
Godparents: Jake and Brittany Ferguson
Mindi and Spencer Troyer

Adult Baptism:

Nikolas Hunter Troyer

Son of Tim and Julie Troyer
Baptized: March 30, 2025 at OSLC
Pastor Joe Johnson, Officiating
Godparents: Carolyn Nelson
Betty Ferguson



CONGRATULATIONS to the following 5th Grade COMMUNION participants on Maundy Thursday:

Genevieve Burger, Brantley Fitzner, Dylan Grinde, Emmett Johnson, Emma Nagel, Harper Olsen, Aubree Wigdahl, Brogan Wright, and Reid Peterson

BACCALAUREATE WORSHIP SERVICE

WHEN: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 204 E Caledonia Ave, Hillsboro

All are Welcome!

OSLC SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY

WHEN: Sunday, May 18, 2025 at the 10:30 a.m. service

There will be a Reception— Cake & Coffee— for Our Savior's graduating seniors starting at 9:45 a.m. on May 18th. Everyone is invited to attend!

Congratulations to the following Our Savior's Graduating Seniors:

Audrey Anderson

Carsi Hatlestad

Wyatt Johnson

Sarah Luithle

Ty Muller

Riley Richter

Peyton Bye

Aylin Garza

Chloe Bockness

Cole Huckins

Kailee Kittelson

Benjamin McRitchie

Kennedy Olsen

Haley Smelden

Graci Miller

Sadie Gallagher

Jack Huckins

Kasen Kittelson

Keithan Muller

Peyton Quam

Isaac Thompson

Olivia Mau





OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Minutes

April 6, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.



Members Present – Jason Lovas, Carissa Olsen, Daniel Nelson, Krista Longthorne, Glen Hultin, Pr. Joe Johnson, Pr. Amanda Johnson.

1. **Call to Order** –Noting a quorum, President Daniel Nelson called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.
2. **Devotions** – Pastor Joe Johnson led us in devotions about the upcoming Holy Week.
3. **Confirmation of Agenda** – Jason Lovas moved to accept the agenda as amended. Krista Longthorne seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Staff Updates**
 - i. Choir/Bell Choir Director – Executive Committee recommends offering the Choir/Bell Choir Director position to Ruth Olson. All in favor motion carried.
5. **New Business**
6. **Pastor Joe's Report –**

The month has been busy with visitations, crisis care, Lent, bible study, confirmation and youth group. Our Lenten theme is "Love." The theme verses are from Matthew 25; Love the Hungry, thirsty, stranger, naked, sick, and imprisoned. I have continued to be active in the community through coaching, attending and supporting athletics and art events. I also emceed and chaperoned prom. We had planned to host the Northwest Minnesota and Eastern North Dakota Synod Joint Theological Day at OSLC but the event was changed to online only because of weather. Since our last council meeting, we had four baptisms and three funerals.
7. **Pastor Amanda's Report –**

Lent is always a busy time, and the month of March has brought even more to do and more to be grateful for! We continued with our normal schedule of three worship services a week as well as two bible studies, Wednesday evening meal, confirmation, youth group, and Sunday school. Additionally, we have held weekly Wednesday evening Lent services, 5th grade communion classes, and preparations for the Palm Sunday program, along with preparations for Holy week. I have been a part of several end of life circumstances, as well as three funerals. We have facilitated a church cleaning party as well as weekly cleaners. I was also lucky to join the women's bible study in providing and serving a meal at the Cross Roads Lutheran campus ministry site. Lastly, we have begun fundraising for the summer mission trip with a meal and preparations for Palm Sunday cinnamon roll sale.
8. **Treasurer's Report** – Jason Lovas reviewed the Treasurer's report, stating that income exceeded expenses by \$17,630.57 as of March YTD 2025. The balance of the media fund is \$1,800. Glen Hultin made a motion to approve treasurer's report, seconded by Krista Longthorne. All in favor, motion carried.
9. **Deacons' Report** – Krista Longthorne reported most of the signs have been hung, a few will be enlarged and rehung.
10. **Trustees' Report** – Mike Tweten emailed an updated report. The Chapel door to the sanctuary has been replaced and looks great! Glen Hultin reported he will do some landscaping work this spring.
11. **Committee Reports**

12. Secretary's Report – Glen Hultin moved to accept the minutes as presented. Krista Longthorne seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

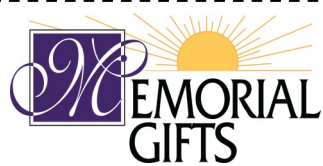
13. Next Meeting – Sunday, May 4, 2025 @ 11:30 a.m.

14. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

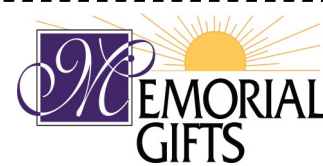
Carissa Olsen





APRIL MEMORIAL REPORT

Thank You to all who gave memorials.
Tammy Nelson, Memorial Secretary



Dedicated Memorial Accounts: General Account, Media Ministry (radio broadcast, etc.), Global Missions, Building and Grounds, Capital Improvements, Youth Activities, National Youth Gathering/Mission Trips, Christian Education (Sunday School, etc.), OSLC Choir, GosBELLS, OSLC Bands, WELCA / WELCA: Altar, Library or Kitchen, Scholarships (Bible Camps, etc.), OSLC Endowment Fund, and Blanchard Endowment Fund

MEDIA FUND - In memory of Elizabeth Hanson, given by Joel Thorsrud; in memory of Loren Wegge, given by M/M Roger Anderson; in memory of Betty Kolanczyk, given by Darlene Swanson, Lorna Nysveen, Duane Haugerud, M/M Allen Mustad and Joel Thorsrud; in memory of Monica Webster, given by M/M Roger Anderson; in memory of Sonja Diehl, given by Duane Haugerud and Joel Thorsrud; in memory of John Pederson, given by Darlene Swanson, M/M Roger Anderson, Duane Haugerud and Friends and Family of John Pederson

KITCHEN PROJECT - In memory of Betty Kolanczyk, given by M/M Lynn Foss and M/M Roger Anderson; in memory of Sonja Diehl, given by Keith and Kenneth Henka, M/M Robert Gustafson, M/M Roger Anderson, Charlotte Engel, Jode Sorum, M/M Jeff Melchior, Arlene Eisenbeis, Susan Lemm, Allen Olson, M/M Donald Moore and Family and Friends of Sonja Diehl

OSLC CHOIR – In memory of Jim Doeden, given by M/M Lynn Foss

OSLC ENDOWMENT FUND – In memory of Betty Kolanczyk, given by M/M Jack Hansen

YOUTH MISSION TRIP – In memory of Betty Kolanczyk, given by Patricia Stigen, M/M Gary Nelson, Doris Rheault, Ilene Lorenz, Krystal Abentroth, Janet Martin, and M/M Gerald Kolanczyk

GENERAL FUND – In memory of Marjorie Riemer, given by Keith and Kenneth Henka; in memory of John Pederson, given by Eunice Morlock and M/M Lynn Foss; in memory of Elizabeth Hanson, given by M/M Dallas Boeddeker; in memory of Sonja Diehl, given by Eunice Morlock and Carolyn Gadberry; in memory of Betty Kolanczyk, given by Pam Offerdahl and M/M Jason Lovas; in memory of Annette Borgerson, Marlys Weibye, J.P. Waters, Judy Trudel, John Mayer, Jean Savre and Rudha Sanderson, given by Eunice Morlock



Sunday Acolytes in May:

May 4 - 8:30am: Audrey T., Wyatt T.	10:30am: Bergit A., Caleb A.
May 11 - 8:30am: Brayden B., Brock F.	10:30am: Jacob G., Claire G.
May 18 - 8:30am: Jade H., Emmett H.	10:30am: Owen H., Ethan J.

Reminder:

On Sunday, May 25th we start our summer schedule with ONE worship service at 9:30 a.m. and Coffee/Fellowship following.



We have gotten a newsletter from Willie Langdji, who is our only missionary working in Central African Republic as part of the ELCA. His wife and son now live in Montana with her parents. This is a safer way for him to go to school in a U.S. type school. We had not heard anything from Willie or the ELCA for several years. It appears that several of the long-term projects are still operating and a new one as well. I will attempt to gather more information from Willie for the future.

In His Service,

*Sylvia Hansen
Global Mission Committee*



Dear friends and family,

*Greetings to you all on this last day of the month of March. It is also the day that our Muslim sisters and brothers are celebrating the Eid-ul-Fitr which marks the end of the Islamic month of Ramadan (period of fasting). In many parts of the West and Central African region there is a lot of feasting in many communities. Here in Cameroon we say *barka de sanlah* to our Muslim neighbors.*

Attached is my newsletter. I hope you enjoy it.

*Thank you,
Willie*

Your Missionary in West & Central Africa

Greetings to you and thank you for reading my newsletter. My name is Willie Langdji, and I serve as Regional Representative of the ELCA for West and Central Africa. I live in Yaounde, Cameroon and in my service, I tend to and nurture church-to church relationships between the ELCA and national Lutheran churches in 7 countries (The Central African Republic, Cameroon, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Gambia and Senegal). My responsibilities involve providing technical support to program leaders, assisting in vision development, grant proposals, advising church leadership, assisting companion relationships, interpreting mission etc.

In this issue you will read about how the wonderful work you are involved in the Central African Republic is transforming the lives of God's people in that country and strengthening your sister church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Central African Republic (ELC-CAR). You may not know that your giving to the ELCA through your congregation and your synod or directly to the ELCA at the national level goes to support mission work in different parts of the world. This work ranges from support for education so that kids can go to school in very remote areas, the training of pastors, evangelists, and catechists who serve in many different communities, providing access to essential and specialized health care for kids and adults, and providing agricultural tools so that people can grow their own food and achieve food self sufficiency.

West Africa Region



Central African Republic

In November 2023 the Western North Dakota Synod, Eastern Northern Dakota Synod and the Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod joined the companion church of the ELCA in the Central African Republic (CAR) to celebrate 100 years of joint mission in that country. Looking back, the companions agreed that a lot had been achieved in 100 years, but the question then was “what will we all contribute to the next 100 years?” Part of the answer to that question has started to come as you will read in the next sections.

From whole peanuts to 100% peanut oil

The Food Security Program of the ELC CAR has provided technical and material support to subsistence farmers in the Nana Mambere and Ouham Pende Prefectures of CAR for over 30 years. This support has helped the farmers grow food for their families and sell the surplus on local markets. Their produce has been sold to individual families and mainly to middle merchants who have enough resources to transport it to the cities and make more money.

Over these years the program has evolved to respond to the needs of the small farmers. One aspect that has recently been addressed is related to the processing of some farm products.

The ELC-CAR's dream has been to add value to the agricultural products of the farmers and enable them to derive more benefit from their produce while at the same time ensuring that the Food Security Program becomes sustainable in the future. In this perspective, January 31, 2025, saw the inauguration of the first peanut oil extraction unit of the church. It is the first in the country by a faith-based organization and by a non-profit private entity. The unit has a production capacity of two tons of peanut oil per day.



Peanut oil

Providing educational opportunities for Central African children

The Education Program of the ELC-CAR has been running community schools in 31 remote villages for 25 years providing opportunities for children in these communities to acquire basic education.

The program has also provided scholarships focusing on supporting young women to further their education after elementary school. Many of these young women have returned to serve in the church and various institutions outside the church in different capacities such as midwives, nurses, accountants, teachers, program directors, etc.

With the increasing number of children leaving elementary school and limited high schools to take them in for secondary and higher studies, the church opened the first Protestant High School in Bouar in 2023. The first permanent building to house the high school was inaugurated on January 31, 2025. The high school now has 51 students, 17 of whom are girls. All the girls receive scholarships through the Young Women's Scholarship Program of the ELC-CAR.

Access to good drinking water

Sustainability of programs is a priority of the leadership of the ELC-CAR. The church and partners have done a wonderful job sharing the Good News of Christ and bringing needed support and care to people in the Central African Republic. Substantial support from the ELCA and other international partners of the church has made much of this possible.



Protestant High School, Bouar-CAR

In the next 100 years the ELC-CAR is giving more attention to the financial sustainability of these programs and the church as a whole. In the past 20 years, and with support from the ELCA, the Water Resources Management Program has supported 75 villages to have access to potable water by harnessing 77 springs and building wells that have benefited more than 25,000 families.



NOTE: WELCA has **Meal Delivery: May 27-30** (NO delivery 5-26) (Hannah Workgroup)

Our Savior's WELCA met on **Thursday, April 3, 2025** with President Sylvia Hansen presiding. Pastor Joe led the Bible Study on Luke 18:31-19:10. Jesus foretells his death and resurrection and Jesus and the disciples began their journey to Jerusalem.

Coffee was served by the Sarah workgroup. The Purpose Statement was read by the group.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Blessing of the Quilts will be held on Sunday, April 27th. The quilters will serve coffee and request donations for LWR to cover the delivery costs for the quilts. Kits will be on display that Sunday.
- Spring Round-Up will be held at Stump Lake Village on Saturday, April 26th. Those planning to attend are: Paula T., Joy M., Sharon E., and Sylvia H. Sylvia will call in the Registration. Joy has offered to drive.
- A workshop about funeral planning will be arranged. Maybe we can use a Thrivent Action Team Grant and provide snacks.

NEW BUSINESS— none

The offering was taken and the meeting closed with recitation of The Lord's Prayer.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 1, 2025 at 10 a.m.

Hannah workgroup serves the May meeting and the nursing home coffee.



**OSLC
YOUTH GROUP
(9-12 gr.)**

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

5:30-6:00pm—Pizza available
6:00pm—Leave from Our Savior's Church
7-9pm—at NORTHERNAIR, Grand Forks
9:45pm—Return to Our Savior's Church

Sign-up by texting Pastor Joe at 701.430.3787

Online Waiver northernairactionpark.com
Event Code: OSLC 25 (must log-on and enter this event code)

COST: \$20 (Scholarships Available)

Closed toe shoes required for go-carts



INFORMATION

HILLSBORO KIWANIS FOOD PANTRY: On the first Sunday of the month, it is an Our Savior's tradition to bring donations for the food pantry. Place your items in the wood crate located inside and to the west of the front door of the church.

Items needed include:

Peanut Butter, Stove-top stuffing, Hamburger Helper, Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken, Canned vegetables, Pork Beans, Pasta Products, Spaghetti Sauce, Salad Dressing, Jello, Brownie Mix, Flour, Coffee & Tea, Ketchup, Mustard
Toothpaste, Body Wash, Deodorant, Shampoo/Conditioner, Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Feminine Hygiene Products, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Kleenex, Napkins

The Hillsboro Kiwanis Food Pantry is located at the Hillsboro Armory. Open the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month from 4-6 pm. THANK YOU for your generous donations for those in need. If you have any questions please contact Rich G. at 701-436-5777 or Dan C. at 701-430-1595.



SOCIAL MEDIA: Watch OSLC worship services and get notified about events on:

Facebook at oslchillsboro (Our Savior's Lutheran Church)

Instagram @ oslchillsboro

YouTube - Our Savior's Lutheran Church Hillsboro ND

HTC CHANNEL 34 and our **Website:** oslchillsboro.com

STEWARDSHIP REPORT: OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

INCOME AND EXPENSES:

2025 Income received through
March 31: \$125,760.85

2025 Expenses through
March 31: \$108,130.28

Income Less Expenses: \$17,630.57

OSLC OFFERING STEWARDSHIP 2025 OFFERING RECEIVED		WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	
March 2	\$ 8,445.79	8:30am 10:30am	50 68
March 9	\$ 5,409.00	8:30am 10:30am	70 74
March 16	\$ 34,701.99	8:30am 10:30am	30 81
March 23	\$ 966.00	8:30am 10:30am	36 72
March 30	\$ 6,867.78	8:30am 10:30am	47 86
Mar. Direct Deposit	\$ 9,752.64		
March Total:	\$ 66,143.20		
2025 Total	\$115,219.57		

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
204 E. Caledonia Ave
Hillsboro, ND 58045

Address Service Requested



2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS

President:	Daniel Nelson	430-3689
Vice-President:	Michael Bare	218-790-8222
Secretary:	Carissa Olsen	430-9588
Treasurer:	Jason Lovas	371-1272
Deacons:	Krista Longthorne	238-6624
	Brad Ydstie	739-4171
	Dawn Paulsrud	218-790-6621
	Teresa Forseth	430-2037
Trustees:	Glen Hultin	430-0491
	Eric Johnson	701-799-6518
	Belinda Bye	712-389-2152
	Mike Tweten	701-238-2073
	Vicki Buchholz	701-799-9469

Church Office Manager: Cindy Doeden
Church Office: 701-636-5701
Hours: M-F 9am-3pm
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or cindy@oschlillsboro.com
Pastor Joe Johnson: cell—701-430-3787;
pastorjoe@oschlillsboro.com
Education Pastor: Fr. Amanda Johnson- 218-556-8895
OSLC Kitchen: 701-636-5705
OSLC Website: www.oschlillsboro.com
Facebook: oschlillsboro
Twitter: OSLCHillsboro; **Instagram:** oschlillsboro
YouTube: Our Savior's Lutheran Church Hillsboro ND
Broadcast live on Sunday mornings at 8:30am on **KMAV**
105.5 FM and KMSR 1520 AM and at 8:30am and 10:30am
on **HTC Channel 34.**

