



Steeple Talk

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

Volume 45; Issue 11

NOVEMBER 2025

**“You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;” Psalm 16:11**

Several years ago, we at Our Savior's started a tradition of making advent calendars and gift boxes for the season leading to Christmas. The boxes were meant to serve our congregation and community, and I think they did. The calendar and boxes also ended up being mailed all over the country and became a bright spot in people's Advent journey. This project also ended up raising thousands of dollars towards charities like the women's shelter in Grafton and the Peace Lutheran food pantry in Fargo.

We have featured a variety of themes for the calendar and gifts. Themes like spiritual practices, following the star to Jesus, as well as Christmas past, present, and future. This year, we will have the theme of Joy! While the realities of life can make it hard to be joyful, we are in Christ's presence, and there is joy to be had!

If you are wondering how to buy a calendar, here is the scoop. Orders for calendars can be made by calling the church office. The calendars will be ready by Sunday November 23rd.



Whether you purchase an Advent calendar or not, choose joy in these next couple months. Know that Jesus is with you and the Holy Spirit is in you! May that revelation bring you JOY!

Pastor Amanda



PASTORAL ACTS:

DEATH:

Jerry McInnes

Born: September 14, 1953
Place of Birth: Fargo, ND
Died: September 26, 2025
Celebration of Life: October 6, 2025 at OSLC
Pastor Joe Johnson, Officiating
Interment: Riverside Cemetery
Hillsboro, ND

MARRIAGE:

United in Marriage on October 4, 2025
at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Hillsboro

Thomas Gieske and Faith Aasen

Witnessed by Jocelyn and Lillian Aasen and
Jake and Jordan Gieske
Officiated by Pastor Joe Johnson

BAPTISMS:

Genevieve Suezanna Burger

Daughter of Brandon Burger and Alison Leier
Born: July 17, 2014
Place: Fargo, ND
Baptized: October 5, 2025 at OSLC
Pastor Joe Johnson, Officiating
Godparents: Josh Burger, Danielle Burger

Shiloh Lee Ydstie

Son of Brendan and Chelsie Ydstie
Born: February 1, 2025
Place: Fargo, ND
Baptized: October 19, 2025 at OSLC
Pastor Joe Johnson, Officiating
Godparents: Christopher and Tera Christian
Daniel and Jessica Berg, Lucas Hoag

TRANSFERRED IN:

Nick and Erin Wilson
James Olsen

Sunday, November 2, 2025 is ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

This is a time to look back and remember those who have gone before us and now live in the full presence of God. Family & friends of those in our church family who have passed away this past year are invited to attend the 8:30am or 10:30am worship service on November 2nd. At **both** services we will remember those loved ones who have passed with the lighting of the four candles: Memory, Courage, Love, and Hope.



**Monica Webster
Melvin Erdmann
Larry (Butch) Lovas
Betty Kolanczyk**

**Marlys Weibye
Elizabeth Hanson
Ole Aarsvold
Dianne Roepke**

**John Pederson
Marlene Oie
Jerry McInnes
Thomas Pederson**

**Sonja Diehl
Daryll Stigen
Duane McRitchie**

The COMMUNITY CHOIR Christmas Concert will be presented on Sunday, December 14th at 7:00pm: "Hope Was Born This Night". **Rehearsals will be on Mondays, beginning Nov. 3rd at 6:30pm as well as an hour on Sunday afternoons, starting Nov. 9th at 3:30pm.** All vocalists are welcome to join us in the Proclamation of the Savior's Birth! Hope to see you there! ~Ruth Olson, Director





OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Minutes

October 5, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.



Members Present – Michael Bare, Krista Longthorne, Teresa Forseth, Glen Hultin, Mike Tweten, Jason Lovas, Carissa Olsen, Daniel Nelson, Pr. Joe Johnson, Pr. Amanda Johnson.

1. **Call to Order-** Noting a quorum, President Daniel Nelson called the meeting to order at 11:42 a.m.
2. **Devotions-** Pastor Joe Johnson led us in devotions from 1 Samuel 3:1-11.
3. **Confirmation of Agenda-** Jason Lovas moved to accept the agenda as presented. Mike Tweten seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
4. **Old Business**
5. **New Business**
6. **Pastor Joe's Report** – Our fall worship schedule is off to a good start. Our fall sermon series is called "Open Door". This sermon series will focus on the various ways God opens doors in our life. Rally Day and the Neighborhood Block Party were again a success. We distributed bibles to the Kindergarten, 3rd Grade, and 7th Grade. Synodical Lay Ministry Barb Hultin, Pastor Amanda and I attended Fair Hills Fall Leadership Conference for Eastern ND Synod September 7-8. We started our Wednesday children and youth programs on September 10. Our Sr. High Youth Group participated in See You at the Pole and prayed for our school, teachers, staff and administration. In the past month I had two weddings and a burial. I taught a class with Marty Baumgartner about funeral planning on September 17. Thank you to OSLC WELCA for planning the class. Some upcoming dates include a 10th grade confirmation retreat October 12, Faith Statement presentations October 22, and Confirmation Sunday October 26.
7. **Pastor Amanda's Report** – Pastor Amanda's Report: September is always an incredibly busy month. In addition to the normal summer schedule in Sept. we add back in Sunday school with rally day, then add confirmation and youth group. I was also lucky to attend the Eastern North Dakota youth retreat with several of our youth in the Detroit lakes area. We also attended the fall theological conference at Fair Hills. Pastor Joe and I both attended a required boundaries training with the synod office. I continue to attend first call meetings which continue my education and bridge the time between seminary and the present.
8. **Treasurer's Report** – Jason Lovas reviewed the Treasurer's report, stating that expenses exceeded income by \$36,587.28 as of September YTD 2025. The balance of the media fund is \$2,780. Daniel Nelson made a motion to approve treasurer's report, seconded by Krista Longthorne. All in favor, motion carried.
9. **Deacons' Report** – Deacons will meet with Pastor Amanda to discuss their next mission.
10. **Trustees' Report** – Mike Tweten reported he is working on getting a sign-up system in place for volunteers. Glen Hultin will work on fixing outside lighting. Trustees will also work on getting speakers in the bell tower repaired or replaced.
11. **Committee Reports**
12. **Secretary's Report** – Jason Lovas moved to accept the minutes as presented. Teresa Forseth seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
13. **Next Meeting** – **Sunday, November 2, 2025 @ 11:30 a.m.**
14. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carissa Olsen





W.O.W. (Women of the Word)
MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

W.O.W. Bible Study began meeting again on **Monday, October 27** at 9 AM in the Our Savior's Church's 2nd floor lounge. They will be studying "The Coming Golden Age" by Dr. David Jeremiah. This has a DVD and there's no book to purchase.

We will discover more of what God has ahead for us, and to anticipate tomorrow with enthusiasm. The glorious future awaits! ~Senora Almquist, Leader

All women are Welcome!



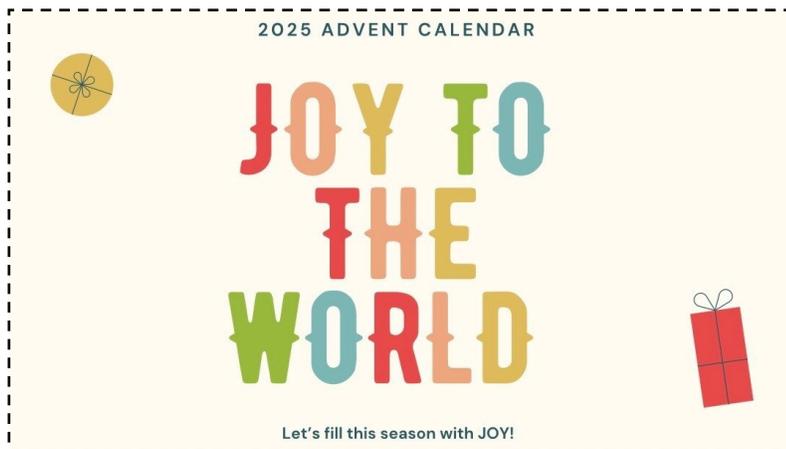
**Confirmation
NEWS**

Sunday Acolytes in NOVEMBER:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Nov. 2 - 8:30am: Easton B., Wyatt T. | 10:30am: Tenley D., Logan F. |
| Nov. 9 - 8:30am: Emmett H., Brady K. | 10:30am: Callie K., Lane N. |
| Nov. 16 - 8:30am: Mason S., Eli T. | 10:30am: Andrew A., Bergen B. |
| Nov. 23 - 8:30am: Logan B., Charleigh F. | 10:30am: Abigail H., Paxton H. |
| Nov. 30 - 8:30am: Brea H., Aislin M. | 10:30am: Parker R., Lilah S. |

Wednesday Meals in NOVEMBER:

- | | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| Nov. 5 | FAMILY SERVING: Hinkle |
| Nov. 12 | FAMILY SERVING: Hovey |
| Nov. 19 | FAMILY SERVING: Myers |
| Nov. 26 | NO Meal or Classes |



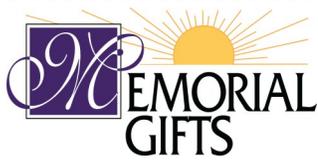
We will do one more year of **Women's Advent Calendars!**

If interested, you can order them now! through:
 the Church Office-
 PHONE: 701.636.5701
 EMAIL: cindy@oslchillsboro.com
 or on Our Savior's Lutheran Church Facebook page.

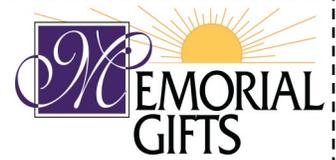
The price will again be \$35/box.

REMEMBER TO bring your filled shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child to the church by November 9th!





OCTOBER 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

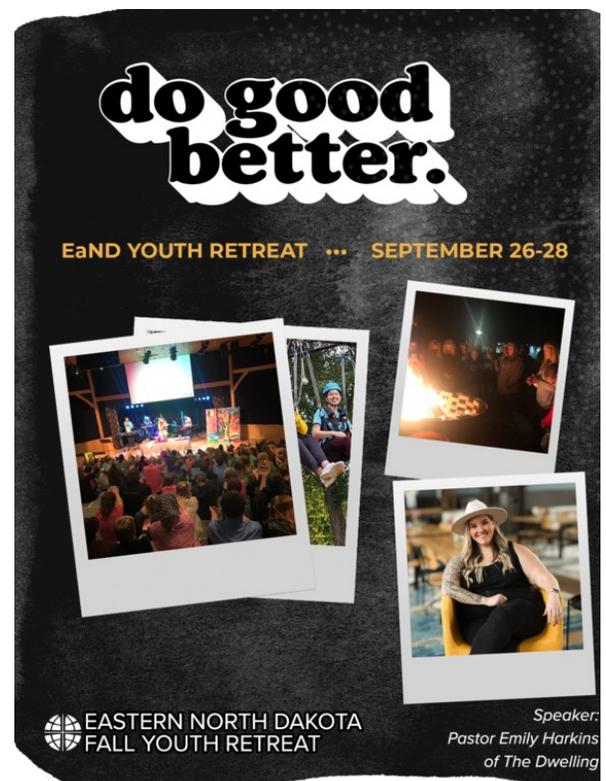
GENERAL FUND – In memory of August Klinnert, Marlene Oie and Rhoda Messner, given by Eunice Morlock; in memory of Jerry McInnes, given by M/M Lynn Foss; in memory of Deloris Lilleberg, given by M/M Glenn Brustad and Eunice Morlock; in memory of Ole Aarsvold, given by Cynthia Hansen and Eunice Morlock; in memory of Larry Lovas, given by Cynthia Hansen and Eunice Morlock

OSLC FOUNDATION – In memory of Deloris Lilleberg, given by M/M Jack Hansen

MEDIA FUND – In memory of Larry Lovas, given by M/M Alan Paulson and M/M Ray Foss; in memory of Elaine Robinson, given by M/M Bob Stanger, Darlene Swanson and Paula Tronson; in memory of Deloris Lilleberg, given by M/M Ray Foss, M/M Gerald Boeddeker, Darlene Swanson and Paula Tronson; in memory of Marlene Oie, given by Darlene Swanson; in memory of Ole Aarsvold, given by Robert Tweten and Lorna Nysveen; in memory of Jerry McInnes, given by Sharon Enger, M/M Allen Mustad and Joel Thorsrud



September 26-28—Ten of Our Savior's youth attended the EaND Synod fall youth retreat. "do good better."





NOTE: WELCA has Meal Delivery: November 24-26—NO delivery Nov. 27-28
(Hannah Workgroup)

Our Savior's WELCA met on **Thursday, October 2, 2025** with President Sylvia Hansen presiding.

Pastor Joe Johnson led the Bible Study on the book of Samuel. We talked about listening and being a good listener.

Sarah workgroup served lunch with Jackie L. hosting.

The Mission Statement was read and Sylvia gave the opening prayer.

The Secretary's report was read and approved. Judy Doeden gave the Treasurer's report, which was also approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Sylvia and Sharon E. talked about the EaND WELCA annual meeting in Devils Lake. It was mostly a business meeting. Concerns were raised about the future of WELCA as many clusters are lacking representation.
- The Prison Ministry is still collecting yarn and could also use poly-fil. They are making heart-shaped pillows.
- The Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are available in the OSLC courtyard.
- Jackie L. also has three sewing kits for LWR.
- Sarah workgroup serves coffee at the Hillsboro Medical Center on the third Thursday of October. This is not just for birthdays anymore.
- Hannah workgroup serves lunch for WELCA in November.

NEW BUSINESS:

- November will be our ThankOffering.
- Jackie L. mentioned that the LWR drop-off in Fargo is October 20-24, 2025.
- Judy D. read a Thank You from the Northland Mission.

The Lord's Prayer was recited and Sylvia gave the Benediction.

Respectfully Submitted.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 10 a.m.

NOTE: During the last week of November, the Worship Service at the Hillsboro Care Center will be held on Wednesday, November 26 at 10:45am instead of on Thursday, due to Thanksgiving Day being on Nov. 27th.



I recently received this news report and wanted to share it with you. It indicates that MINUSCA The UN Peacekeeping Mission has been able to disarm some of the rebel groups, by offering job training and a starter allowance, to those willing to surrender Arms or Ammunition. This is the first time I remember hearing that these kinds of programs existed and were apparently working. Thank God for small developments like these. Yet here most wanted to join the CAR army. Going from one side of the fighters to the other, this is the only job they feel competent to do.. At least an effort is being made by the UN to get the people some kind of training so they can make a living. This is a complicated plan, but at least a plan.



I have had no information from the church since the Christmas letter from Willie. I wish I had a source to give me news from "on the ground" in CAR, but that seems to have stopped since we do not have a missionary living in the CAR. I do believe that we have an operating High School to which we have offered scholarships to some girls, who had completed the elementary program.

Remember to pray for peace and justice in the CAR, as well as supporting the Global Mission fund in our congregation. Our committee should be considering how to spend this year's donations. I am hopeful that the women and girls classes in reading and writing have continued and that the High School program is still operating.

In His Service,

Sylvia Hansen
Global Mission Committee

Central African Republic: '3R' Combatants in the Northwest Lay Down Their Arms

17 October 2025 UN News Service, [allAfrica](#)

As the disarmament team approached, combatants from the Retour, Réclamation et Réhabilitation (3R) armed group stood in two orderly lines expectantly, youthful faces and greying heads alike. Some carried weapons of war; others ammunition - the very items on which their eligibility for the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) process they were about to embark on depended. Well-wishes rang out from the small crowd of locals gathered in Sanguere-Lim, Kouï Sub-Prefecture, to see the combatants off as they walked from the 3R assembly point towards the nearby makeshift disarmament site being set up by the national unit overseeing and implementing the process. Music also played out - part of the Government awareness campaign - as a song blared from loudspeakers calling on **Central Africans to lay down their arms "in order to go to school, to cultivate the fields or for any kind of livelihood, lay down your weapons, for peace"**.

Ongoing operations

The disarmament and demobilisation initiative in Sanguere-Lim marked the latest in a series of ongoing operations launched in July. They followed a landmark peace agreement between the Government and the 3R and another armed group Unité pour la Paix en Centrafrique (UPC) - signed in N'Djamena, Chad, in April - marking their return to the peace process in the CAR.

The UN peacekeeping mission in the country, MINUSCA, supports the DDR operations, in line with its mandate. The Government launched the national programme in December 2018, and MINUSCA has been providing extensive financial, logistical, technical and security ever since.

Looking forward to a new life

Abel Delatid, 25, who joined the 3R in 2017, was among the combatants being disarmed. "I heard about the peace agreement in N'Djamena through awareness-raising by MINUSCA and local authorities. I am looking forward to vocational training to start a new life as I lost my leg during fighting," he said after surrendering his weapon. A few obligatory stops awaited the combatants, including handover of weapons or ammunition, a body search, and registration and receipt of a disarmament certificate. They also receive a medical check-up, choice of vocational training, a special allowance, and starter kit to help with the new road ahead.

Ambition to join the army

For his part, Aroun Isa Oumar expressed a desire to leave behind the tough years spent in the bush. He hoped to receive training in order to join the national army - a recurrent wish among many combatants - perhaps driven by a lack of information about available programmes supporting reintegration.

Time and time again, Awareness Campaign Officer, Jean Christophe Namyona, briefed ex-combatants stopping at his desk to opt for a preferred vocational training or income-generating activity of their choice - such as commerce, husbandry or carpentry - should they not be eligible for military service. Disarmament and demobilization operations are guided by a 2016 National DDR Strategy, which outlines specific eligibility criteria.

For example, ex-combatants seeking to join the army must be between 18 and 25. Eligibility further depends on owning a functional or repairable weapon, or the surrender of 200 rounds of ammunition, eight grenades, or 10 rockets.

Among the combatants previously disarmed in the area was Mbekaka Ursula Aicha, a 29-year-old mother of two and the only female ex-combatant to join the DDR process there.

'Peace is possible'

Mbekaka had joined the 3R movement three years earlier, driven by a sense of protest against what she described as the marginalisation of her community. "I agreed to disarm following the call by the President to return to the country and work for peace, as well as in accordance with orders from the 3R leadership. Now that we have laid down our weapons, peace is possible," she said.

The Sub-Prefect of Kouï, Larry Nordine Mahalba, stressed the importance of disarmament and demobilization and commended MINUSCA's support. "For five years, the 3R occupied this region. MINUSCA has supported us on multiple levels - bringing relief to a traumatized population. Wilfried Relwende Sawadogo, Coordination Officer with the UN Mission, noted that "crucially, disarmament and demobilization operations contribute to pacifying communities, thereby advancing the key MINUSCA mandated task to protect civilians."

For Sanguere-Lim resident Adama Yaouba, life has turned a corner thanks to disarmament in the locality. "Today, armed groups have laid down their arms, and everything has changed. Before, we never slept peacefully; we lived in constant fear, always on edge. But now, I can sleep calmly, free from worry."

The 3R Political Coordinator, Yaya Amadou, himself disarmed during previous operations, encouraged others to follow suit. "The time for war is over, and now is the time to make peace," he said.

*WELCA is once again collecting gifts for clients at the State Hospital. Please consider contributing a gift. A bit of Christmas cheer must be uplifting to the clients who receive them. Please have all gifts in the designated box in the courtyard at Our Savior's Church by **Sunday, December 7th**, so that WELCA members can ship them in time for the volunteers & staff members who run the program to receive them.*

CHRISTMAS GIFT PROGRAM FOR ND STATE HOSPITAL CLIENTS

Here are a few suggestions for those who wish to respond to this appeal. Please select gifts you would enjoy yourself.

For Men or Women: body wash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, lip balm, lotion, notebooks (NO wire spirals), planners, journals, devotionals, fleece throws/blankets.

For Women: Pajama sets, lounge pants, underwear, sweatshirts, sweatpants, casual shirts, socks, make-up, nail polish, winter hats, gloves, hair accessories.

For Men: Sweatshirts, sweatpants, colored t-shirts, casual shirts, socks, underwear, pajama sets, lounge pants, winter hats, gloves, billfolds, slippers.

For Wards or Clients: Games, art and craft supplies, adult coloring books, activity books (word find, cross-word puzzles, etc.), crayons, colored pencils, markers, puzzles, calendars, blankets/quilts, Christmas candy.

FINANCIAL AID is welcome. We will send a post-card receipt for all donations. NDSH Volunteer Services, 2605 Circle Drive, Jamestown, ND 58401.

PLEASE NOTE: For the Christmas gift program, we **do not** give used clothing or other used items, glass, metal, aluminum, ceramic, breakable knick-knacks, books or calendars with wire spiral bindings, and alcohol-based items (*many perfumes, colognes and aftershaves contain alcohol*).

**All gifts are individualized as much as possible. Our volunteers work with staff members to make sure clients receive gifts that match their preferences and sizes. The gifts are then wrapped with a name tag attached. Thank you!

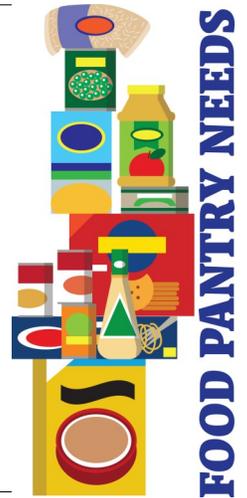
INFORMATION

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.



St. Rose of Lima Parish FALL DINNER

When: Sunday, November 2, 2025

Time: 11am - 1:30pm

Where: Parish Center, 503 3rd St SE, Hillsboro

Serving: Traditional Turkey Dinner -mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing, carrots, pie

Cost: \$15-Adults; \$5-Children (K-6th); Preschool Free; Gluten-free meal available!
\$15-Take-out meals
(call 636-5981 from 8:30am-12:30pm)

Scan here

or

Text \$ amount to:
833-460-2876

GET IT ON

Download on the

OSLC OFFERING STEWARDSHIP 2025 OFFERING RECEIVED		WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	
September 7	\$ 4,216.25	8:30am	48
		10:30am	189
September 14	\$ 2,353.00	8:30am	66
		10:30am	118
September 21	\$ 2,955.77	8:30am	54
		10:30am	105
September 28	\$ 2,792.69	8:30am	53
		10:30am	126
Sept. Direct Deposit	\$ 9,613.30		
September Total:	\$ 21,931.01		
2025 Total	\$260,226.43		

STEWARDSHIP REPORT:
OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

INCOME AND EXPENSES:

2025 Income received through
September 30: \$279,959.31

2025 Expenses through
September 30: \$316,546.59

Income Less Expenses: -\$36,587.28

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

BAKING CLASS

Join our baking class to learn scratch baking for your loved ones as while learning ways to share God's abundance with others.



NOV 9 & 16
11:30 AM

Nov. 9: Homemade pizza for the freezer

Nov. 16: Cinnamon Rolls, Caramel Rolls, and Scratch made Chili

Held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church Kitchen

Price: Free-will offering

Included in price: class, supplies, and take home meals



Usher Scheduling for 10:30am Sunday services:

We are still looking for volunteers to help with USHERING at the 10:30 AM service. Mike Tweten has set up a 'Sign-Up Genius' link where you can see available dates and sign-up. If you have any questions or can sign-up to volunteer, please scan the QR code above. This QR code will also be located downstairs in the courtyard at Our Savior's.

NOVEMBER 11th



Poinsettia Orders

This year you again have an opportunity to purchase a Christmas Poinsettia to beautify our church.

All gifts will be acknowledged in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

Each plant will cost \$20.00

Please fill out the order form below and return it, along with your payment (checks payable to OSLC), to the church office no later than Monday, November 24th.

A Christmas Poinsettia given in...

Memory of: _____

Honor of: _____

OR

Celebration of: _____

GIVEN BY: _____

Thank you for your generosity!

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
Church Office email address: oslcelca@rrv.net
or cindy@oslchillsboro.com
Pastor Joe Johnson: cell—701-430-3787;
pastorjoe@oslchillsboro.com
Education Pastor: Fr. Amanda Johnson-218-556-8895
Visitation Minister: Joy McSparrow
Custodian: Steve Aanderud
OSLC Kitchen: 701-636-5705
OSLC Website: www.oslchillsboro.com
Facebook: oslchillsboro
X: OSLCHillsboro; **Instagram:** oslchillsboro ND
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 on **HTC**
Channel 34.

