



Steeple Talk

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

Volume 45; Issue 12

DECEMBER 2025

*We have to
choose joy
and keep
choosing it.*

HENRI J.M. NOUWEN

Last month I wrote to you all about our advent calendars and the ways they have helped us focus on the journey of advent. Since then, I have had my own journey with the aid of the advent calendar. You see, in the last month I have taken my time to write and gather other people's writings for this year's advent calendar and devotional. The devotional theme is that of joy. As a result, I have learned a lot about joy!

I have learned that joy can be something you choose. In other words, even if you don't come by joy naturally, you can choose joy if you are conscious enough about the process. I also learned how to see joy. In mindful gratitude practices we can begin to see joy in new and unexpected ways. Finally, I learned

that joy can be an act of resistance. The world seems to be telling us to feel angry and set against one another. I have learned that it is ok to take on the hardships of life and feel pain and hurt. It is also ok to turn to joy once we are ready.

I know this is an idyllic point of view. I know that there are plenty of people in our community and even in our own families that have been through tragedies that lead to anywhere but joy. Perhaps you yourself are struggling with depression or anxiety and feel the notion of choosing joy as something of a pipe dream or at the least... insensitive of me to suggest. I get that. I really do. But maybe, in between the hardships and struggles, even if it's just for a fleeting moment, remember there is joy to be had. It is advent after all. Jesus is coming and there is more joy in his birth than we can even imagine!

"Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great **joy** for all the people:" -Luke 2:9-10

Pastor Amanda

Recognize joy
when it arrives
in the
plain brown wrappings
of everyday life.

- Judith Viorst

annsillers.com

PASTORAL ACTS:

DEATH:

Rollin Eberhardt

Born: September 6, 1959

Place of Birth: McVille, ND

Died: November 9, 2025

Funeral: November 18, 2025 at OSLC

Pastor Joe Johnson, Officiating

Interment: Ottawa Cemetery
Rural Aneta, ND

BAPTISM:

Wrenna Jo Olson

Daughter of Hunter and Katlyn Olson

Born: September 14, 2025

Place: Fargo, ND

Baptized: November 23, 2025 at OSLC

Pastor Joe Johnson, Officiating

Godparents: Ian Bergh, Shenay Riendeau



You are Invited!

The Community Choir and Bell Choir will be presenting an evening of music and fellowship to kick off the Christmas Season:

"Hope Was Born This Night"

Sunday evening, December 14 at 7:00 pm

Our Savior's Church, 204 E Caledonia Ave, Hillsboro

Refreshments will be served following the concert

All are welcome-please join us!

Free admission, food pantry donations accepted



Wednesday, December 24, 2025

1:30 PM at Hillsboro Care Center Chapel

3:30 PM at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

5:30 PM at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

*Sunday, December 28th there will only be ONE worship service at 9:30 AM.





OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Minutes

November 2, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.



Members Present – Michael Bare, Teresa Forseth, Glen Hultin, Mike Tweten, Eric Johnson, Carissa Olsen, Daniel Nelson, Brad Ydstie, Pr. Joe Johnson, Pr. Amanda Johnson.

1. **Call to Order** – Noting a quorum, President Daniel Nelson called the meeting to order at 11:49 a.m.
2. **Devotions** – Pastor Joe Johnson led us in devotions from Hebrews 12.
3. **Confirmation of Agenda** – Teresa Forseth moved to accept the agenda as presented. Brad Ydstie seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
4. **Old Business**
5. **New Business**
 - a. Annual Meeting Date – Sunday, January 25th immediately following the 10:30 am service.
 - b. Main Parsonage Tenant – Michael Bare moved to approve the main parsonage tenant for a 3-6 month period. Mike Tweten seconded. All in favor, motion carries.
6. **Pastor Joe's Report** – On October 12 our 10th graders attended a confirmation retreat in Detroit Lakes, made their confirmation stoles, and finished their faith statements. They presented their faith statements on Wednesday, October 22. They were confirmed on Sunday, October 26. Our fall sermon series "Open Door" is going well with a focus on how God opens doors in our life. The sermon series will conclude with the start of Advent. I have been coaching football and our season has come to a close. I would like to thank the council and congregation for the support.
7. **Pastor Amanda's Report** – Besides our normal workload, this month has been busy with confirmation and after school activities, as well as several baptisms, a Wedding, hospital visits, and plans for Christmas. The start of Oct. our after-school activities began. Each Wed we welcomed 25-30 students for snacks, games, art projects, and acts of kindness for our community. Through our after-school time, Our Savior's was able to host several new students making the effort even more valuable. All month we have been helping our 10th grade confirmands prepare their faith statement and get ready for the day of confirmation. We did this with a confirmation retreat to Detroit lakes, as well as meeting with each confirmand to help them write and perfect their statements. I have been busy planning the Women's Advent calendar. Additionally, I am getting the Sunday school children ready for an early Christmas program on Dec 7th.
8. **Treasurer's Report** – Daniel Nelson moved to postpone the review of the report to December due to Jason being in the field. Michael Bare seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
9. **Deacons' Report** – Deacons will meet with Pastor Amanda to discuss their next mission next week
10. **Trustees' Report** – Mike Tweten reported they have organized some storage for the Altar Committee. Ushers are still needed; Mike will post sign up link on Facebook and contact others to fill open spots. Trustees will also work on getting speakers in the bell tower repaired or replaced.
11. **Committee Reports**
12. **Secretary's Report** – Daniel Nelson moved to accept the minutes as presented. Teresa Forseth seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
13. **Next Meeting** – **Sunday, December 7, 2025 @ 11:30 a.m.**
14. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carissa Olsen

Advent People in Uncertain Times—A Bread for the World Devotional

How do we as Christians – as a community focused on advocacy – show up in a period of uncertainty? Our Advent devotional wrestles with this question. Advent, as a season of waiting and uncertainty, is an especially appropriate time to reflect on this question.

At Bread for the World, our mission is to educate and equip people to advocate for policies and programs that can help end hunger. Our faith in Christ is the foundation of our efforts and compels us to love our neighbors near and far. There are more than 700 million people experiencing hunger around the world every day. Not only are people in need of food, but there's a global hunger for justice, equity, and security. This is why our work is grounded in the hope that Christ's arrival brings and is inspired by God's redemptive love.

Being Peace—Week 1

Scripture: Isaiah 2:1-5 and Psalm 122

Reflection:

Peace comes from the Lord. He causes the nations to change their foreign policies. While they once invested in tools to kill and destroy, they will now invest in tools to grow and nurture. The people ascend the mountain of the Lord, and everything changes!

As we begin this Advent journey, I want to pose this question: **Who are we waiting for?** Really, in our heart of hearts, who or what do we think is going to intervene to bring us from where we are to where we want to go? Who are we looking to in order to teach us how to navigate our present circumstances and get to the place where we hope to arrive?

Keep your eyes on the prize. Look to the hills from where your help comes. Over and over, we are oriented in scripture toward the mountain of the Lord.

You will notice that God's people ascend the mountain, but they do not remain there. They receive instructions and are sent out to walk in the light of the Lord. They ascend the mountain seeking the Lord, and there they are changed into people of peace who walk in his light and bring that light with them.

Oh, how our world needs God's light!

This Advent, we wait on the Lord, who can teach us and change us into people of peace.

Michael Wear is a member of Bread for the World's board of directors and CEO of Center for Christianity and Public Life, a nonpartisan nonprofit civic organization with the mission to contend for the credibility of Christian resources in public life, for the good of the public.

Being Love—Week 2

Scripture: Romans 15:5-13, Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Reflection:

As Advent people in uncertain times, the call to love becomes both a hope and a challenge. The words of Paul in Romans invite us to live in harmony, "so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."



Harmony is not just about being of one mind; it is a matter of attitude. The motivating power of harmony is love, an attitude embodied in "being love." This is a radical call in polarized political climates where marginalization, oppression, violence, and persecution are on the rise. Still, attitude influences action, and action changes the circumstances.

Psalm 72 presents a vision of just leadership: the poor are defended, the oppressed find deliverance, and abundance is shared like rain upon mown grass. These passages challenge our polarized world, where neighbors are too often strangers, and those who hunger are too easily overlooked.

As a Latina raised in a U.S./Mexico border community, I learned early that love bridges divides and creates possibilities where only separation seemed to reign. Jesus' call to feed the hungry is not merely a personal act; it is collective action rooted in justice, requiring us to "be love" across boundaries of politics, language, and race.



In this season of waiting, love must move us from intention to action. Love must flow through us in advocacy, hospitality, and boldly speaking the truth. Love, expressed through our tables, prayers, voices, votes, and accompaniment, becomes an agent of God's healing and justice, especially for those hungry, exiled, or ignored. When progress seems slow, love keeps us hoping and fortifies our faith to continue advocating.

To "be love" in uncertainty means refusing to let fear or indifference direct our choices. It means showing up and embodying Christ's love in communities, around tables, at physical and societal borders, in war zones, and in places of power, carrying a persistent hope that love prevails. As we await the fulfillment of God's promise, may our love serve as bridgework for justice and nourishment for those in need.

Rev. Lori Tapia is a member of Bread for the World's board of directors and the first Mexican American woman to serve as National Hispanic Pastor for the Disciples of Christ (Christian Church).

Being Joy—Week 3

Scripture: Luke 1:46b-55, Psalm 46:5-10

Reflection:

Mary's Magnificat in Luke 1 is a renowned song of praise in the Advent season. It is a direct response to God's prophetic word to her in a profoundly dark time.

She bursts with praise not long after Gabriel informs her that she would give birth to a son named Jesus, who would be the Son of the Most High God, inherit the throne of David, and reign forever. This timely word went against all odds – that is, everything her natural eyes and mind could reasonably comprehend in her present circumstances.

She was a virgin – physically incapable of bearing a child – living under the rule of Herod the Great, who would cease at nothing to maintain power. Yet she was told she would give birth to a new king who would reign forever. Mary not only believed this extraordinarily good news but praised God in response, recognizing that God's presence was in her midst and abided in her humility.

Christ's birth is not only a witness of God's glory, but also a reflection of our Creator's desire to send light, hope, and transformative power in the darkest of times *through us as conduits* if we remain humble and believe God's Word.

Neither our physical limitations nor the rulers of this world are what ultimately determine whether God's people or our world will experience an extraordinary breakthrough. Rather God's favor and our humble disposition are the determinants of how God's peace, justice, and love will manifest in and through us and prevail in uncertain times.

Rev. Heather Taylor serves as managing director for Bread for the World.

Being Hope—Week 4

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

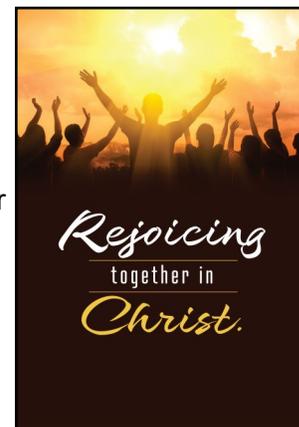
Reflection:

Advent is a time and season of expectation. Great expectation. The coming of the Christ child brings mystery, hope, and signs of God's presence at work in the world.

The context in which these events took place reflected hardship for the people and for these parents. Theirs was no easy undertaking, especially when faced with an unexpected pregnancy. And yet, the hope in the story is understood in what we know, which was unknown to them: This child would change the world as they knew it.

The child's name had profound meaning then and now: Emmanuel, God with us. In these words, we find the embodiment of hope for challenging times. God is with us. The birth to come says that God is active in the world, present and prevailing in times of trouble and despair.

The Christ child entered a world where Roman occupation was causing undue distress. The poor, the orphans, and the widows – the least of these – were in great need.



Taxes to support the Empire were wearing on the people, and the religious elite were focused on their power rather than the needs and suffering of the people.

The prophetic word was a promise given and received. A son would be born, to be named Jesus, one who would save the people. The advent of this child is hope incarnate, hope for the people who received and benefited from Jesus' ministry.

This season of Advent finds us holding hope for those in need. The poor need help more than ever, but government funding and support is shrinking. People and organizations are left struggling to meet the needs of the poor, to meet the needs of hungry children, to ensure that economic justice prevails for those in need.

Advent is a reminder that God is with us. We carry with us this hope that God is present and does not leave us. As people of faith, we bring with us the truth that God's presence with us makes the difference in the world. We are the hope that is needed in this moment. We become the presence of God revealed, responding to the needs of people and communities. We bring the hope that is needed to address the mission to end hunger in the world. We experience and live out this hope because we receive and believe in Emmanuel – God with us.

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson is a member of Bread for the World's board of directors and the first woman to serve as the general minister and president of the United Church of Christ.



(REVERSE) ADVENT CALENDAR IDEA

Each day ADD an item to a box. Then on Christmas Eve (or soon after) donate the contents to the (Hillsboro) Food Pantry.

- December 1—box of Cereal
- December 2—can of Chicken
- December 3—box of Stove-top Stuffing
- December 4—box of Hamburger Helper
- December 5—can of Beef Stew
- December 6—can of Peaches
- December 7—can of Baked Beans
- December 8—bag of Ramen Noodles
- December 9—Cake Mix
- December 10—can of Pineapple Chunks
- December 11—can of Chili
- December 12—Hand Soap
- December 13—can of Pork-n-Beans
- December 14—can of Chicken Noodle Soup
- December 15—can of Green Beans
- December 16—Dish Soap
- December 17—box of Cereal
- December 18—can of Chicken
- December 19—can of Tomato Soup
- December 20—bag of Cookies
- December 21—Laundry Soap
- December 22—box of Hamburger Helper
- December 23—bag of Ramen Noodles
- December 24—Shampoo/Conditioner





**NOTE: WELCA has Meal Delivery: December 22-26—NO delivery on Dec. 25th.
-Hannah Workgroup**

Our Savior's WELCA met on **Thursday, November 6, 2025** with President Sylvia Hansen presiding. Sylvia gave the opening prayer.

Judy Doeden led the Bible Study on 1 Kings on the preparations and dedication of the temple.

Hannah workgroup served lunch.

Jackie Lovas made 5 Sewing Kits and 30 Backpack bags.

The Secretary's report was read and approved and the Treasurer's report was also approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The collection date for the Christmas Shoeboxes is Monday, Nov. 17th. Connie A. emphasized the importance of this program for introducing people to Jesus, spreading the good news, and being good disciples.
- There is a box and list of items needed in the OSLC Courtyard for collecting items for the ND State Hospital Clients.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Community Christmas Concert is Sunday, December 14 at 7pm. The Dorcas workgroup will be serving lunch treats following the program.
- Elaine L. made a motion to pass a unanimous ballot for the current officers. Seconded by Marilyn L. Sylvia Hansen as President, Paulette Bowersox as Vice President and Secretary, and Judy Doeden as Treasurer.
- Judy D. presented the amended WELCA budget for 2026. The Hillsboro Food Pantry budget was increased to \$450 and Churches United Fargo/Moorhead was added for \$200. Connie A. made a motion to move the money from SADD (no longer has a chapter in Hillsboro) to the Angel Fund (Hillsboro school lunch fund). Seconded by Jackie L. A motion was made by Sylvia H. to accept the amended 2026 Budget. Seconded by Elaine L.

The ThankOffering was collected and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

- ◇ Hannah workgroup will serve coffee at the Care Center this month.
- ◇ Correction: Dorcas workgroup will do Meal Delivery in November (24-26) and Hannah workgroup will do Meal Delivery in December.

Respectfully Submitted.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 10 a.m. with a Christmas Potluck following!

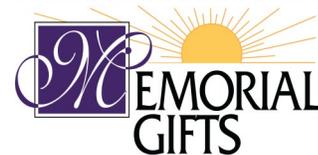
Women of Our Savior's Lutheran Church,

At our last WELCA meeting our previous Christmas Luncheons, with decorated tables was discussed. Last year we discussed it also and considered bringing it back, if there was interest. We had only 4 People who offered to host a table. We had decided that we needed at least 10 to make it happen.

This year we again discussed it and wondered if the Christmas season might be too busy. We decided to give it another try at Valentines {February} next year. We encourage you to be thinking about this idea and be ready to respond with your opinion when we contact you in the New Year. Or feel free to contact me with your opinion now. Sylvia Hansen @ 701-430-0820 or 636-5378



NOVEMBER 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 Larry Lovas, given by M/M Court Hanson

WELCA - In memory of Marlene Oie and Liz Hanson, given by M/M Roger Anderson

MEDIA FUND – In memory of Russell Pauls, given by Darlene Swanson; in memory of Barbara Berggren, given by Paula Tronson and M/M Ray Foss

CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Our Savior's Lutheran Church has the following dollars available to be distributed in 2025:

**OSLC Endowment Fund - \$1,450.00 and
Blanchard Endowment Fund - \$675.00**

The following are the areas available to receive funds from the **OSLC Endowment Fund**:

1. **Priority Needs:** to support extraordinary programs, capital improvements or other ministry initiatives **at OSLC**.
2. **Education:** to support **outreach into the community and synod**, including - but not limited to - grants to ELCA seminaries, colleges or students attending such schools, social service agencies, institutions and agencies to which this congregation relates, and to special programs designed for those persons in our parish area who are in spiritual and/or economic need.
3. **Outreach Mission:** to support one of the above designated areas in proportion as determined by the Fund, or for causes and programs, which at the discretion of the Fund are consistent with the fund purpose of **enhancing the mission outreach of OSLC**.
4. **Missions:** to **support the missions of the ELCA** in the continent and worldwide, including - but not limited to - grants to the ELCA for congregational development in North America, professional leadership, educational ministries, global mission, ecumenism, evangelism, social ministries, and capital financing.

The following are the areas available to receive funds from the **OSLC Blanchard Endowment Fund**:

1. This is a restricted gift fund to support **outreach in Trail County** including grants or scholarships to students attending area colleges or ELCA seminaries, social service agencies and institutions and to special programs designed for those persons who are in spiritual or economic need.



**Endowment
Fund
Offering**

Please email (oslcelca@rvv.net) or bring your **written request** -for where you would like to see these available funds distributed- to the Church Office **prior to Friday, Dec. 8, 2025.**

After last month's good news from Central African Republic, we have some heart wrenching news this month. These things go on all the time in this part of the world. Our Global Mission Committee is investigating how we can use our donation to improve life for women and children in the CAR. Keep these people in your prayers and keep your contributions to this fund coming.

The men and boys are more likely to be recruited for the warring groups or killed or severely beaten. The women are left with the job of caring for the children.

In His Service,

*Sylvia Hansen
Global Mission Committee*



“Life is dangerous for women in this camp”: In the Central African Republic, survivors of sexual violence lose critical support as funding is slashed

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
19 March 2025

BANGUI PREFECTURE/BIRAO, The Central African Republic – “Life is dangerous for women in this camp,” said Mariam Zakaria, 32, who recently fled brutal violence and conflict in Sudan, returning to the Central African Republic, her home country. “If you want to work, someone might not hire you unless they can take advantage of you. And if a woman doesn't accept, her children will get nothing to eat.” The Korsi refugee camp in Birao, in northern Central African Republic, is home to around 18,000 refugees and returnees. Many have escaped rape, coercion and traumatic abuse, their journeys long and fraught with danger. But upon arrival, they often discover they are not safe at their destination either.

Despite the treacherous conditions, Ms. Zakaria told UNFPA, the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency, “I have to go out looking for work. I am a widow and have seven children – sometimes they go without food for two days.”

The crisis in Sudan has led over 3 million people to flee across borders, tens of thousands of them to the Central African Republic. Yet decades of conflict, insecurity, violence and a lack of essential services have also caused one fifth of the Central African Republic's population to be displaced, according to UN estimates.

Sexual violence, trafficking and forced marriage are also reportedly rising at alarming rates in the Central African Republic, particularly in displacement camps and areas controlled by armed groups. The vast majority of those subjected to abuse are women and girls; almost one quarter are children and adolescents. “We receive a lot of cases of rape of minors, especially during this dry season,” said Léonce Issouf Dessoula, a case manager at a UNFPA-supported safe space in the village of Boko Landja, near the capital Bangui. “Adults are raped too – women go to the forest to look for wood and for things to eat, and they get assaulted.”

When even home is a hazard

The safe space is one of 14 UNFPA currently supports in displacement camps and host communities in the Central African Republic, which offer refuge as well as medical, psychological and legal referrals for survivors and girls at risk of forced marriage. Yet Ms. Dessoula explained it's not just strangers who pose a threat to women and girls. “Physical assault within marriages is common, as well as psychological violence. Many women face financial abuse, where their husbands take the money they earn from selling goods and leave them with no resources or opportunities.”

Reports from early 2024 showed that fewer than one third of survivors of sexual violence received any kind of psychological or medical care within the critical first 72-hour period, and even fewer received legal or livelihood assistance. “Although less common, forced marriages also occur, particularly with young girls aged 16 to 18, often arranged by their parents,” Ms. Dessoula said.

A second chance

In Mboko Landja, near the capital Bangui, 22-year-old Naomi Dakaka was one such girl. “I stopped studying at the age of seven as we couldn't afford it and had no help to pay for school. I have 12 siblings, but our father is irresponsible,” she told UNFPA. “I was 13 when I was forced to be married. I had my child in January 2020, he

will be five years old soon. His father also abandoned me, and I am currently living with my older sisters.” Both Ms. Dakaka’s parents have since passed away, leaving her with no other source of help – until she heard about a UNFPA safe space nearby, offering an alternative way of earning a living to help break the cycle of violence. “I dream of becoming a seamstress so I can support my children and prepare them for adulthood,” she said. “I want to leave here with valuable skills. Before, I wasn’t educated, but thanks to this space, everything has transformed.”

A freeze on critical funds

Life-saving funds from the United States that had been supporting programmes in the Korsi refugee camp in Birao – and others near the borders with Cameroon, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sudan – have recently been terminated. As a result, many services aimed at reaching almost 70,000 women and girls will no longer be able to operate. “If funding were to stop, the impact would be devastating,” said Dr. Marthe Augustine Kirimat, Minister of Gender promotion, shortly before news of the terminations. “It would affect [survivors] well-being, as well as their community and the state.”

Already, thousands are no longer receiving vital assistance – including for safe delivery and clinical management of rape – as two UNFPA-supported health clinics have been forced to close their doors due to a lack of available funding.

In 2025, UNFPA needs US\$16.5 million for its programmes in the Central African Republic, especially for the most underserved communities. Albertine Yantijba, 55, said of the safe space in Mboko Landja, “As long as it remains active, our women can live in tranquility. Since the project began, more women feel safe, can assert themselves, and live normal lives. We ask you to please continue supporting us.”

*WELCA is 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 get them ready for Christmas.*

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!

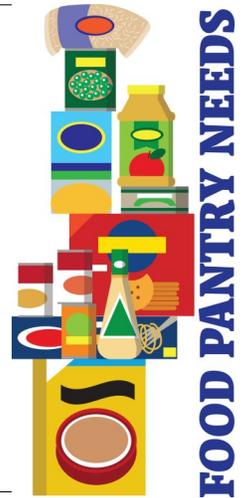
INFORMATION

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:

Ramen Noodles, Stove-top stuffing, Hamburger Helper, Beef Stew, Chili, Chicken Noodle Soup, Canned Chicken, Canned Green Beans, Peaches & Pineapple Chunks, Pork/Baked Beans, Cereal, Cookies, Cake Mixes, Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Hand Soap, Body Wash, Deodorant, Shampoo/Conditioner, Feminine Hygiene Products, Cleaning Supplies

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



ANNUAL MEN'S POTATO DUMPLING DINNER

Sunday, December 7th

11:30am-1:30pm

Halstad Lutheran Church
304 5th St E, Halstad, MN

Potato Dumplings, Ham, Jiffy Corn Casserole, Lefse and Dessert. \$15-Adults; \$10-Children; Dine In or Take Out.

We will also have a SILENT AUCTION with many things to bid on. Thrivent Funded. Money raised for the general church fund.



The Offering



Vanco
Mobile Faith
Engagement



GET IT ON
Google Play



Download on the
App Store

Scan here



or

**Text \$ amount to:
833-460-2876**

OSLC OFFERING STEWARDSHIP 2025 OFFERING RECEIVED		WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	
October 5	\$ 4,766.00	8:30am	52
		10:30am	103
October 12	\$ 4,726.59	8:30am	64
		10:30am	85
October 19	\$ 2,782.16	8:30am	58
		10:30am	79
October 26	\$ 3,527.00	8:30am	58
		10:30am	252
Oct. Direct Deposit	\$ 8,972.64		
October Total:	\$ 24,774.39		
2025 Total	\$285,000.82		

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT:
OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

INCOME AND EXPENSES:

2025 Income received through
October 31: \$305,377.35

2025 Expenses through
October 31: \$354,631.19

Income Less Expenses: **-\$49,253.84**

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

NOTE: Any YOUTH, Elementary through Junior High ages, are welcome to join the youth choir for a song sung with the adult choir during the Community Christmas Concert! Rehearsals are approx. 25 min., and will be held on Sundays: November 23 @ 3 PM, November 30 @ 3:15 PM, and December 7 @ 3:30 PM.

THE OSLC DEACONS have put together communion bags so those who head south for the winter can continue to commune with us while joining the online service. If you would like one or know someone who would, please reach out to Pastor Joe, Pastor Amanda or one of the Deacons (Dawn 218-790-6621, Teresa 701-430-2037, Krista 701-238-6624 or Brad 701-739-4171).

THE ANGEL TREE is set up in the narthex at Our Savior’s for the Hillsboro Care Center Residents. Choose a tag and bring back the unwrapped gift or money donation to the church office by Dec. 5th. Questions: Contact Joy McSparron at 701-361-9990



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 at the left.



Sunday Acolytes in DECEMBER:

Dec. 7 - 8:30am: Trygg T., Lydia T.	10:30am: Tenley D., Logan F.
Dec. 14 - 8:30am: Colbie H., Bridger L.	10:30am: Cayden O., Mason O.
Dec. 21 - 8:30am: Brynn S., Audrey T.	10:30am: Wyatt T., Bergit A.
Dec. 28 - 9:30am: No Acolytes	

Wednesday Meals in DECEMBER:

Dec. 3	FAMILY SERVING: Redland
Dec. 10	FAMILY SERVING: Torgerson
Dec. 17	FAMILY SERVING: Edenborg
Dec. 24	NO Meal or Classes
Dec. 31	NO Meal or Classes

54 filled Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes were delivered!
Thank you to everyone who took part and to Connie Anderson for leading this project.



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

Address Service Requested



2025

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.

