

THE GRAPEVINE

THE NEWSLETTER OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 2025 In This Issue

2006 Proposed Budget.....	4-5
Birthdays/Anniversaries.....	11
Commemoration Profiles	6
OSLC News.....	3-5
Prayer Requests.....	11
Thank You.....	10
WELCA.....	7



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Generous Stewardship: God's Story, Our Story

As we enter this season of generosity and gratitude, we pause to remember that every good gift begins with God. The story of stewardship is not about what we give up, but about how God's love continues to flow through us and into the world.

This fall, Our Saviour is entering a season of reflection and celebration around God's generosity and our shared call to be faithful stewards of all that God has entrusted to us.

When the church talks about stewardship, it can sometimes sound like talk about budgets or spending plans. Those things are part of it, but they are not the whole story. The real story of stewardship is about recognizing how God's story continues to unfold through us. It is about seeing the generosity of God woven into our daily lives in ways that are both ordinary and holy.

God has poured out abundance since the beginning of creation. The story of God's abundance is not new to us. It is the heartbeat of our faith and one that Luther's writings help us understand. In Martin Luther's explanation of the First Article of the Creed, he reminds us that God provides everything we need - daily and abundantly - even when we forget to ask or be thankful. This generosity from God is simply who God is. Purely out of divine goodness and mercy, and without any merit or worthiness of ours, God gives. Stewardship is our joyful response to that goodness. It is also our participation in God's creative work of sustaining life and community.

The ways we give generously of our time, our care, and our resources are a reflection of God's own love living through us. When we share what we have, we are mirroring the character of the One who first gave everything. Our generosity becomes a living sign of God's presence in the world, an echo of divine grace in everyday life.

(continued on page 2)

God keeps creating through us and through our actions. Sometimes we try to compartmentalize money and keep faith out of the conversation. Yes, money is required for the church to operate. But our relationship with money, and the power we allow it to hold over us, can easily become the real issue. God doesn't care about money itself - God cares about what we do with it. God loves, and that same love that moves God to give freely moves through our hands when we share what we have. When we pause to notice, we see it everywhere: in the meals we prepare for one another, in the time we spend listening, and in the prayers we lift for each other and the world.

Throughout this season, we will listen to one another's stories of how God's grace shows up in daily life. On Sundays, November 2 and 9, we will hear Temple Talks - short but powerful testimonies of generosity and faith from members of our congregation. These stories remind us that stewardship is deeply personal, grounded in trust and gratitude. When we tell how God has been at work in our lives, we encourage and inspire one another to live generously.

Then, on Sunday, November 16, we will gather for Celebration Sunday, the joyful culmination of our stewardship emphasis. In worship, we will offer our Estimate of Giving cards as a sign of trust in God's provision and of our shared commitment to the ministry we do together. Like the loaves and fishes, what we offer in faith is multiplied by God for the sake of the world.

After worship, we will share a congregational meal. It will be a time to give thanks for what God has done and to look with hope toward the ministry God is calling us into next.

This year's theme, "Generous Stewardship: God's Story, Our Story," reminds us that generosity always begins with God. Everything flows from God's abundant love, and through our lives and gifts, that love continues to ripple outward.

As we move through these weeks, I invite you to pray and to listen for the ways God's grace has touched your life. What story might God be writing through you? How might your gifts of time, talent, or treasure become part of God's work in the year ahead?

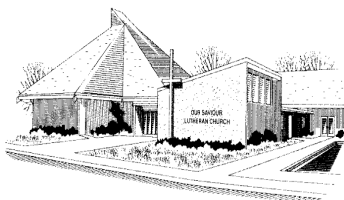
Keep your eyes and hearts open to the ways God and the Spirit are moving you toward generosity. Notice where you feel inspired to give and to serve. The Spirit's leading often begins in gratitude, in impulses toward compassion, and in a sense of joyful giving. Pay attention to those moments. They are signs that God's story is still unfolding through you.

Each fall, I find myself surprised by how these stories linger - the way someone's faith story becomes a spark for someone else. Together, may we enter this season with open hearts, grateful for God's abundance, and ready to join in God's unfolding story of grace among us.

With peace, love, and a
thankful heart In Christ,
Pastor Joanna Gragg



OSLC NEWS & NOTES



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS October 2025

- Plans are being made for an emphasis on stewardship during the month of November, with a special dinner on November 16.
- OSLC's constitution needs to be amended to incorporate changes approved at the recent church-wide assembly.

RAZBERRIES

The Satterwhite's will be hosting Razberries at their home on Friday November 7th (note date change). Please join us for an Italian meal at 6:00 pm. Bring an appetizer or dessert and your favorite beverage.

Please call or text Ann at 803.530.6249 by Tuesday November 4th if you plan to attend.

2026 Church Directory

As we approach the coming new year keep an eye out in the Narthex for the sign-up sheets for the teams and the ministries at OSLC. Please take a moment to sign up for all those you are interested in. Don't forget to check the church directory membership to make sure the information for your family is accurate.

SAVE THE DATES

November 16, 2025: Annual Congregational Meeting and Consecration Sunday. Lunch in the fellowship hall following worship

Monday, December 15, 2025: LMM AND WELCA CHRISTMAS SOCIAL More details to follow.

NOVEMBER MINISTRIES

FLOWERS		GREETERS
Nov 2	Charles & Ruth Nicholson	*Need Volunteer
9	*Need Volunteer	Doris Wessinger
16	*Need Volunteer	Sandra Hughes
23	Horace & Betty Meetze	Horace & Betty Meetze
30	*Need Volunteer	*Need Volunteer

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS		LECTORS
Nov 2	Charles Nicholson	Charles Nicholson
9	Marie Lybrand	Marie Lybrand
16	*Need Volunteer	Pam Hanfland
23	Isma Boland	Caroline Raszewski
30	Ann Satterwhite	Ann Satterwhite

<u>NOVEMBER</u>		<u>DECEMBER</u>
USHERS		
Chief	Jim Garner	Mark Satterwhite
	Wayne Lybrand	*Need Volunteer
ALTAR GUILD		
	*Need Volunteers	Isma Boland & Melba Murphy
OFFERING PICKUP		
	Jim Garner	Wayne Lybrand
TELLERS		
	Beth Cleland & Caroline Raszewski	Beth Cleland & *Need Volunteer
PROPERTY COMMITTEE		
	Jim Garner	Steve Nivens

AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

October 2025

WORSHIP—38

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Proposed Budget 2026

	BUDGET 2025	INCREASE/ DECREASE	BUDGET 2026
CHARITABLE & SERVICE WORKS TEAM			
Social Ministry (Supplies)	\$200		\$200
Community Lunch	\$500		\$500
Camp Kinard	\$1,000		\$1,000
God's Helping Hands	\$1,500		\$1,500
Lutheran Services Carolina	\$500		\$500
Disaster Relief	\$1,000		\$1,000
Synodical Apportionment	\$5,000		\$5,000
Sub Total	\$9,700	\$0	\$9,700
EDUCATION TEAM			
<u>Christian Education</u>			
Bible Study	\$200		\$200
College Students	\$300		\$300
Sunday School	\$600		\$600
Vacation Bible School	\$400		\$400
Sub Total	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
EVANGELISM TEAM			
<u>Communication</u>			
Calling Post	\$100		\$100
Website	\$45		\$45
Evangelism	\$500		\$500
Sub Total	\$645	\$0	\$645
FELLOWSHIP TEAM			
<u>Kitchen and Fellowship</u>			
Hospitality Groups	\$200		\$200
Meals	\$1,300		\$1,300
Youth/Souper Bowl	\$300		\$300
Sub Total	\$1,800	\$0	\$1,800
STEWARDSHIP TEAM			
<u>Administration</u>			
Maintenance/Agreements			
<u>Power Church Yearly Fee</u>	\$445		\$445
Copier Agreement	\$2,400		\$2,400
Custodial Agreement	\$8,800		\$8,800
Grounds/Landscaping	\$5,000		\$5,000
Insurance	\$10,000		\$10,000
Utilities			
Elec/Gas/Water	\$15,000		\$15,000
Garbage/Waste Service	\$700	\$300	\$1,000
Telephone/Internet Service	\$1,100	\$1,300	\$1,500
Office Supplies	\$6,000		\$6,000
Offering Envelopes/Stewardship	\$500		\$500

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Proposed Budget 2026

	BUDGET 2025	INCREASE/ DECREASE	BUDGET 2026
Off-Site Record Storage	\$100		\$100
Postage	\$500		\$500
Sub Total	\$50,545	\$1,600	\$51,245
SALARIES/BENEFITS			
<u>Staff Salaries/Benefits</u>			
Handbell Choir Director	\$5,000		\$5,000
Organist/Choirmaster	\$11,670		\$11,670
Pastor Supply	\$800		\$800
Social Security (Staff)	\$821		\$821
Secretary	\$13,728		\$13,728
Sub Total	\$32,019	\$0	\$32,019
<u>Pastor Salary/Benefits</u>			
Pastor	\$46,038		\$46,038
Housing (Pastor)	\$13,812		\$13,812
Pension & Insurance (Pastor)	\$32,063		\$32,063
Professional Expense	\$1,000		\$1,000
Social Security (Pastor)	\$9,851		\$9,851
Sub Total	\$102,764	\$0	\$102,764
Car/Travel Mileage Allowance	\$1,500		\$1,500
Synod Convention Expense	\$0		\$0
Sub Total	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
WORSHIP TEAM			
Handbell Music Supplies	\$100		\$100
Choir Music Supplies	\$100		\$100
Guest Musicians	\$1,200		\$1,200
Devotional/Publication Materials	\$400		\$400
<u>Altar Guild</u>			
Communion/Paraments/Flowers (Supplies)	\$2,500		\$2,500
Sub Total	\$4,300	\$0	\$4,300
MISCELLANEOUS	\$3,000		\$3,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$207,773		\$208,473
BUILDING MAINTENANCE			
PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$30,000		\$30,000
TOTAL BUDGET	\$237,773	\$1,600	\$238,473

COMMEMORATION PROFILES

Ruth Nicholson

The Lutheran Church, as part of its worship, celebrates the lives of notable Christians of the past. Our hymnal provides a calendar (pp. 15–17) for us to follow which recognizes these individuals on the anniversary of their deaths.



November 23
Clement, Bishop of Rome
(died c. 100)

Very little is known of Clement's life. He is thought to have been the third successor to St. Peter as leader of the church in Rome. He is known chiefly for the letter he wrote, probably in 96 A.D., to the church at Corinth. It is a model of pastoral concern for a church troubled by discord. Clement was held in such high esteem that this letter was considered Scripture by some Christians until the fourth century. It is also responsible for his designation as one of the Apostolic Fathers of the church. Tradition has it that Clement died a martyr's death.

November 23
Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr
(died 1927)

Miguel Pro was a Jesuit priest in Mexico at a time when its government was very oppressive. Those who favored the overthrow of the regime accused the Catholic church of siding with the government, and so priests and parishioners were in constant danger. Pro conducted most of his ministry in private ways, concentrating on the poor and homeless. His martyrdom resulted from a false accusation that he and his two brothers had thrown a bomb at an official's car. Miguel Pro shouted "Viva Cristo Rey!" ("Long live Christ the King!") as he and his brothers faced death by firing squad.

November 25

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter
(1674-1748)

Nonconformist minister Isaac Watts is often called the father of English hymnody. He wrote some of his best-known hymns while serving as pastor of a congregation in Mark Lane, London. Most of his hymns are based on psalms and reflect a calm, firm belief. Our ELW contains ten Watts hymns, including "Joy to the World," "Jesus Shall Reign," and "O God, Our Help in Ages Past." Isaac Watts also wrote about philosophy, astronomy, and social issues of his day.

ELCA PRESS RELEASES



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

- 9/25 Yehiel Curry to Be Installed as ELCA Presiding Bishop
- 10/3 ELCA Statement on Deadly Attacks in the UK
- 10/9 ELCA Church Council Welcomes New Members
- 10/15 ECA Conference of Bishops Gathers in Minneapolis

WELCA 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- January (TBA) Installation of OSLC-WELCA Officers.
- March 13-15 *Wild Women Retreat* at Lutheridge.
- March 15 Saxe Gotha Conference Meeting-Faith/WestColumbia.
- April (TBA) Joint Circle Meeting
Devotion/Prayer-Lydia;
Refreshments-Cameron/Rebekah)
- September 20 Saxe Gotha Conference Meeting-Mt. Tabor/West Columbia
- October (TBA) Joint Circle Meeting
(Devotion/Prayer- Cameron/
Rebekah; Refreshments-Lydia)

OFFICERS

President—Linda Griffith (Rebekah)
 Vice President—Isma Boland (Cameron)
 Treasurer—Ann Satterwhite (Lydia)
 Secretary—Caroline Raszewski (Lydia)

Another year is coming to an end and our new president will take over in 2026. Congratulations to Marie Lybrand for taking on the task to serve. Linda Griffith will serve as Vice President along with Ann Satterwhite as Treasurer and Caroline Raszewski as Secretary. Thank you Caroline Raszewski and Elizabeth Shealy for serving on the nominating committee. Pastor Joanna will perform the installation of officers in January.

At our **Joint meeting** held last month, we had a lot of business to discuss — elected officers, updated hospitality guidelines, updated our Constitution and Bylaws, approved a new budget with some offering suggestions for circles, as well as heard reports from all the committees. **JOB WELL DONE LADIES!**

By now, most of you have heard that Pastor Joanna will be leading the *Wild Women Retreat* at Lutheridge **March 13-15, 2026**. If you would like to join others from the congregation planning to attend, contact Marie Lybrand. I know this will be a wild weekend! This year's theme is "*So She Laughed*" (from Genesis 18:12) (The weekend will explore the spirituality of joy and laughter through Bible study, workshops, and joy-filled fellowship. An optional afternoon outing with LaZoom Comedy Bus Tours is sure to put the "wild" in Wild Women and make you LAUGH!...copied)

Cameron and Rebekah Circles have finalized plans for the **Social Activity of the Year** — A Joyful Christmas with a special guest appearance from one of the not so famous 'bad' women of the Bible. If you saw Pastor Jackie Utley do her version of Jezebel, I know you won't want to miss another one of her versions of another 'bad' woman! Also on the agenda is some singing and joyful sharing of food, fun, and fellowship. Invite your friends. Linda Hill and Linda Griffith have the tickets. Cost is \$15 per person and you must bring your ticket with you to the dinner to qualify for a door prize!

The Christmas tree and decorations will be going up in the Fellowship Hall on December 1st. As you all know, Patsy Horton is the person who loves Christmas and loves to decorate! She is the chair for this committee. If you'd like to join Rebekah and Cameron Circles at 10:30 AM, come help us share joy and deck the hall! Refreshments provided too!

On a personal side, thank you to all for all your support over the past five years; however, I'm not going away—just stepping down as president and my primary duty will be the article for the Grapevine. I also want to especially thank Pam Hanfland and Sandra Hughes for taking on the tasks of revamping our Constitution/Bylaws and to Beverly Nivens and Ann Satterwhite for their suggestions on the Hospitality Guidelines. And not going without saying, thank you to Ann Satterwhite, Isma Boland, and Caroline Raszewski for putting up with my requests. Just know that WELCA is very important to me and I hope that our Unit will continue to support the programs and leadership of our great community of women as we move forward.

2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Visit the SC WELCA website (www.scwelca.com) monthly as important information regarding retreat speakers, new payment options for events, The Ripple, Bible Study ideas, and updated convention information is posted on a regular basis. It also has a new look with a helpful menu for you to search for specific information.

- December 1 Church Directory Information Deadline. Circles should provide to Pam Hanfland.
- December 15-Joint Circle Social Event with LMM.
- December (TBA) Immediately following Worship Service WELCA Executive Meeting (circle leaders w/unit officers)
 Opening Prayer: Treasurer, Ann Satterwhite

(2026 Events listed on page 6)



*Our Saviour's WELCA
Invites all to the Social Event of the Year!*

*A Joyous Christmas with LMM
...Joy is more than what you feel;
Joy is sharing.*

*Monday, December 15, 2025
Our Saviour Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
6-8 PM*

*This year, the Cameron and Rebekah Circles have been charged with planning a
Social Event for family and friends.*

*So, invite your family and friends to join us for an evening of
Food, Fun, and Fellowship.*

*Tim's Catering will provide our meal
And a surprise visit from one of the "Bad Women" of the Bible will perform.*

This is definitely a social you will not want to miss!

Tickets \$15.00 per person

(Note: Please bring your ticket to be eligible for door prize.)

See Linda Hill or Linda Griffith for your tickets today.

DEADLINE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025





GENEROUS STEWARDSHIP: GOD'S STORY, OUR STORY NOVEMBER AT OUR SAVIOUR

This November, we give thanks for the many ways God's story of generosity continues through us. Each week invites reflection, prayer, and gratitude as we respond to God's abundant grace.

Sunday, November 2 – Temple Talk #1 We will hear from one of our congregation members how generosity has been a part of their story as part of our faith family.

• **Sunday, November 9 – Temple Talk #2** We will hear from another of our members how they have witnessed our gifts from God bless our neighbors and ministry partners in the community.

Sunday, November 16 During worship, we will prayerfully offer our **2026 Growing in Generosity** cards

Immediately following worship, we will stay gathered in the sanctuary for our congregational meeting.

And then, **following the congregational meeting we will celebrate with lunch** in the fellowship hall.

Don't forget to put it on your calendars: Sunday November 16 is a big day in the life of our church!

We will have Consecration Sunday and a Congregational meeting. Please be sure to

1. RSVP for lunch and

2. See attached copy of generosity card. Please use this to discern your generosity and faith practices in offering. Copies will be available in the narthex.



Celebration Sunday Lunch — November 16, 2025 Following Worship • Fellowship Hall

This November, we're taking intentional time to reflect on God's abundant grace. On Celebration Sunday, we'll gather in worship to prayerfully offer our 2026 Growing in Generosity cards. Following worship, we'll continue the celebration with a congregational lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

Please RSVP so we can prepare a place for you!

Name(s): _____

Number Attending: _____

(Please return this form to the church office or offering plate by Sunday, November 9.)

As we gather to celebrate God's goodness, may our hearts be open to the Spirit's movement. Come share in worship and fellowship as we give thanks for what God has done and for what God will do among us.

THANKSGIVING BLESSING BOX AND GOD'S HELPING HANDS MINISTRY NEEDS

As we gather this season to give thanks for God's many blessings, we also remember those in our community who could use a little extra care. Our **Blessing Box and God's Helping Hands Ministry** are in special need of donations this month to help our neighbors enjoy a warm and nourishing Thanksgiving season.

You are invited to share from your abundance by donating **easy-open (pull-top) items** - foods that can be opened and prepared without a can opener.

Most-needed items include:

- Fruit cups and Vienna sausages
- Noodles, mac and cheese
- Cream of chicken, cream of mushroom, and potato soups
- Canned tomatoes and canned beans
- Jello or pudding cups
- Crackers and cookies
- Cooking oil (not olive oil)
- Chef Boyardee canned meals (ravioli, spaghetti, etc)

Please place your donations in the **Cameron Hallway**. Together, let's fill the Blessing Box and be God's helping hands that bless our neighbors with the same generosity God has poured into our lives.

*You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God.
(2 Corinthians 9:11)*

GOD'S HELPING HANDS

God's Helping Hands current needs are: fruit cups, Vienna sausages, noodles, cream of mushroom, cream of chicken, and cream of potato soups, jello, cooking oil (no olive oil), crackers, cookies, canned tomatoes, canned beans, and Macaroni & Cheese. Please place donations in the designated container in the Cameron Hallway.

THANK YOU

I want to express my heartfelt thanks for the many cards, calls, texts, and prayers during my unexpected hospital stay. The gift card was also much appreciated! It is a blessing to be a part of such a loving and caring church family.

Sincerely,
Steve Nivens



GRAPEVINE ARTICLES

If you have articles, reports and/or pictures that you or your group would like printed in the next Grapevine, please send them to the Church Office by **Monday November 24.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

Those listed below have special prayers needs at this time. We keep the entire congregation in our prayers at all times, but sometimes special prayers are needed. If your name is on the list or you have added someone's name and they no longer need to be on the list, please contact the church secretary so the name can be removed.

*Gary Black
Chris Boland
Greg Chapman
Jeannie Chapman
Katie Doble
Anne Moye*

*Steve Rucker
Elizabeth Shealy
Marie Shealy
Debbie Chapman Tidmarsh (daughter of
Jeannie Chapman)
DeLeon & Jane Wallace*

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Theresa Garner	11/03
Linda Crapps	11/16
Padget Satterwhite	11/19
Sharon Doble-Bone	11/23
Dan Hanfland	11/29
Sharon Assey	11/30

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Horace & Betty Meetze	11/22
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Please Note: if there are any errors or omissions in birthdays or anniversaries, notify the church office. We want to make sure our records are correct.





GROWING IN GENEROSITY 2026

As God has been generous to us, we are invited to grow in our generosity — in giving, in serving, and in hope. This is a prayerful act of trust and gratitude.

Name _____

As I reflect on God's grace, I sense God calling me to grow in generosity this year by:

- ☐ Growing in financial giving to support Christ's mission at Our Saviour
I/we intend to give approximately \$_____ per week / month / year (circle one) in 2026.
- ☐ Deepening my prayer life and gratitude, trusting God's abundance more fully
- ☐ Other ways God is calling me to grow:

My prayer for our congregation in 2026: _____

"From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace." — John 1:16



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

The Worship and Music Committee would like to request your assistance this year by asking you to lend a poinsettia for our Christmas Services at a cost of \$14.00 (includes tax). Your check should be made payable to the church and marked "POINSETTIA". Please indicate in the space below the information you want printed in the Christmas bulletin. Please place in the offering plate or mail to the church

with your check **BEFORE December 19, 2025.**

I desire to order _____ poinsettia(s).

I desire the following information printed in the bulletin:

Given ____ IN MEMORY OF or ____ IN HONOR OF or ____ OTHER

(list designation) _____

By _____ **(Please print legibly)**