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# **WORSHIP TIMES:**

Sunday at 9:30 am Wednesday at 6:00 pm

1207 Prairie Ave SW Faribault, MN 55021

507-331-2276

## **OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday-Thursday** 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

**Friday** 

8:30 am - 12:00 pm

# **Visit our website:**

oursaviorsfbo.org

# Follow us on Social Media:







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Dear Friends in Christ.

As we gear up for our New Member Event on October 8th, let's take a moment to think about what it really means to welcome someone new into our church family. In Romans 15:7, we are reminded to "accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

Welcoming a new member isn't just about a handshake and a smile - it's about making them feel like they've found their home away from home. So, here are three simple ways we can make our newbies feel right at home:

- 1. Remember, the pews are like musical chairs they belong to no one! So, instead of staking your claim on your usual spot, why not mix it up and sit next to someone new? Show them the ropes, make them feel comfortable, and who knows, you might just make a new friend in the process.
- 2. We all love our post-worship coffee chats, but let's not forget to include our new members in the fun! Sure, it's great to catch up with old pals, but let's make sure our new friends feel like they're part of OSLC! Explain our inside jokes, share our traditions, and invite them to join in the laughter. After all, the more, the merrier!
- 3. And last but not least, follow up with our new members when you see them again. Write down their names on the yellow sheet and let us know that you've made a connection. A little effort goes a long way in making someone feel valued and appreciated.

Let's all channel our inner host/hostess and show our new members the love and grace of Christ. Together, let's build a community that radiates warmth and acceptance.

We are excited to welcome new members to our community and are seeking sponsors to guide and support them on their journey. If you are interested in sponsoring a new member, please let me know. You would join us for our new member event on Wednesday, October 8th at 6:30pm. During that time we will share stories, spread positivity, and welcome new members with open hearts. Then we need you to be present at worship on Sunday, October 12th. During the service we will celebrate New Member Sunday and embrace our new members with love and support.

Together, let's all work to create a welcoming and inclusive community that uplifts and empowers all who join us. Thank you for your support and willingness to spread positivity for newness. Let's come together in the spirit of new membership, with the Holy Spirit leading us forward.

In Christ.

Pr. Kira

# Leadership for Such a Time as This

For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this. Esther 4:14 NRSV

The verse quoted above comes from Esther, a book often overlooked by Christians, but which is full of drama, plot twists, and even comedy. More importantly, the story of Esther gives us models for what both good and bad leadership look like. On the one hand is Ahasuerus, the Persian Emperor with an enormous ego who is obsessed with power, riches, and his own self-image. On the other hand is Esther, a Jew who becomes the Emperor's queen and soon learns of a plot to destroy all the Jews living in the Persian Empire. In the verse above, Esther's adoptive father, Mordecai encourages her to use her newfound position of leadership for good - to tell the truth, expose the plot, and attempt to save her people, even though it meant risking her own life. Mordecai's encouragement suggests God has called Esther to leadership "for just such a time as this," and that her unique gifts will be critical to navigating the crisis at hand.

In such a time as this, when our world is facing multiples crises, from wars and genocide, to the rise of authoritarianism, to hunger and poverty, to climate change, we Christians ought to pray for good leadership, no matter who is currently in power. Some of these crises may feel distant or beyond our control, but we have the opportunity to model faithful leadership in our own communities and in our own congregation. But what exactly are the qualities of good leadership? Many books have been written on this subject, but I've put together a short list of what I consider some of the key features of faithful, Christian leadership especially in times of crisis.

# Faithful, Christian leadership...

- 1. Acknowledges the reality of the crisis. It avoids downplaying challenges or attempts to create a false or illusory hope. Doing so is not only deceitful, it is dangerous. Only after the gravity of the situation is fully acknowledged can true hope begin to take shape.
- 2. Tells the truth. When the truth is hard to hear, it is often unpopular. Yet honesty, over time, builds trust, and it has the power to create a shared vision for how to navigate the challenges of the crisis.
- 3. Asks for help when needed. Leaders were never meant to do everything on their own. Leaders should never assume they have all the answers or abilities for the task at hand. This involves seeking and heeding the advice of relevant experts and delegating work appropriately to those who are able to help.
- 4. Leads by example. Good leaders don't tell others what to do then behave in a way that contradicts what they've said. They practice what they preach, modeling the behavior they expect to see in others. This helps create a shared set of expectations that everyone can buy into and live by.
- 5. Listens carefully. Those whom leaders are charged with leading are not subjects to be ordered around, but have a voice. Their needs, concerns, fears, questions, hopes, and desires need to be considered when making decisions.
- 6. Listens carefully to God. Faithful leadership tends to the nudges of the Holy Spirit and trusts the guidance of Jesus through prayer, study of scripture, worship, and other spiritual disciplines. Discernment is needed to trust what is the will of God versus what is one's own motivations.
- 7. Is consistent in its purpose but adaptable with its technique. Another way to say this is that good leadership puts the "why" before the "how." Our purpose (why we do what we do) is more important than the technique (how we do what we do). Crisis often demands we change quickly how we do things, but the principles of why we do these things should always be front and center.
- 8. Responds with trust. A crisis demands decisive action be taken. Such decisions are made with the best available knowledge and accountability to God, the people, and the truth. This will not always make everyone happy, and sometimes mistakes will be made. But our God is a God of grace, mercy, and forgiveness, and good leaders trust in that grace which gives them the freedom to do what God has called them to do.

Our Savior's is blessed with some truly gifted leaders who, I deeply believe, God has called to lead for just such a time as this. Your council, Pr. Kira and I, the staff, tables and ministry teams are all working together to meet the challenges and opportunities of this time. I was encouraged by the level of turnout and engagement at the "State of the Church" meeting on Sep. 21. To me, it was evidence that the people of OSLC are invested and engaged in the direction of our congregation. I believe we are in good hands. God will carry us through - just as God did for Esther and her people - just as God has always done for God's people.

In faith, Pr. Drew

# FELLOWSHIP EVENTS AT OSLC



Join your pastors **every Tuesday morning from 9:30-10:30 in the Narthex** for a Bible study called *Dwelling in the Word*. Each week, we will read scripture for the coming Sunday. Then we will engage in conversations around three key questions: What does the text say? What does the text mean? And, most importantly, What is God saying to me through this text?

Dwelling in the Word for all individuals! Whether you can attend every week or sporadically, whether you have a deep understanding of scripture or just starting to dig deeper. It's a great opportunity to connect with other members of our community, our Pastors, and grow in your faith through shared exploration of scripture. Come as you are, bring your questions and insights, and let's journey together through the pages of the Bible. We look forward to welcoming you with open arms and open hearts.



our Christian education opportunities and be a part of our welcoming community. Let's grow in faith together in this ever-changing world! We will welcome our new members

on Sunday, October 12th!

# **Book Studies**



# Beloved Community Book Study RFCAP

"A Faith of Many Rooms; Inhabiting a more spacious Christianity" by Debie Thomas

I am inspired by the findings and reflections from our book study. Because of faithful dialogue with our members after each section of this book, it is clear to me that we are being called to embrace a more spacious Christianity in our living. This means being more inclusive, expansive, and open-minded in our faith journey. We must welcome all who knock on our door with a warm smile and a hearty "come on in," just as Christ would do as Debie writes in her book.

After reflecting on our four sessions together with 13 members who joined in the conversations when they can, I believe our take away as a group is that a Spacious Christianity is about breaking down barriers and divisions that separate us, and instead, embracing the richness that comes from diverse perspectives and beliefs. It is about inviting others to join us in our journey, and creating a space where all are welcome and valued.

I encourage you to read the book if you have not. And then, once you are done, I invite you to consider how our church will embody this Spacious Christianity in all aspects of our lives - in our relationships, in our worship, and in our outreach to the community. I pray that Our Savior's will be known for our genuine welcome and acceptance of all. One hymn that stood out to the group as we closed our reflection was, "They will know we are Christian's by our love", so let's create a worshiping home where everyone feels welcome, accepted, and loved. Together, let us live out a faith that is truly spacious and inclusive.



# **Book Studies**

# Beloved Community BOOK STUDY

Wednesdays: October 22 & 29, November 5, 12,& 19

Fireside Room | 6:30 PM (during Wednesday Night Programming)



# "Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People."

Join Pr. Drew and other curious adults in this five-part book study of Rev. Nadia-Bolz Weber's Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People. In this unconventional collection of stories, Pr. Nadia shows us how God's radical grace can appear in surprising places, and in people you might not expect, all to create a more inclusive and loving church. Accidental Saints has been described as "wickedly funny and painfully vulnerable, theologically nuanced and lyrically sonorous" (The Christian Century). Fair warning: this book

contains raw and candid language, often employing curse words for emphasis. Sign up using the QR code or by calling Wendy in the office. Please order your own copy of the book in your preferred format (hard copy, digital, or audio).



# **Financial Update**

Total cash Designated for specific purposes (restricted accounts)

Leaving a cash balance for General Operating expenses of

# **Fast Figures** 2025 Financials

# Finalized through August 2025

	Actual	Ministry	D	Difference
August Reciepts	\$ 56,591	\$ 36,954	\$	19,637
August Expenses	\$ (50,659)	\$ (57,495)	\$	6,836
Receipts Over Expenses	\$ 5,932	\$ (20,541)	\$	26,473
			\$	-
YTD Receipts	\$ 416,297	\$ 380,204	\$	36,093
YTD Expenses	\$ (422,135)	\$ (486,854)	\$	64,719
Receipts Over Expenses	\$ (5,838)	\$ (106,650)	\$	100,812
Balance Sheet Recap	Actual	Beginning		Change
Total cash on hand as of 08-31-2025	\$ 254,472.57	\$ 260,471.12	\$	(5,998.55)

August is finalized. Giving compared to plan is up 53.14% or \$19,637 Expenses are down compared to plan <-11.89%> or <-\$6,836>

182,741.78

71,730.79

182,901.73

77,569.39

Year to Date:

Giving compared to plan is up +9.49% or \$36,093 Expenses are down compared to plan <-13.29%> or <-\$64,719>

Total Cash in General Operating Account is \$71,730.79 this is the cash we have access to for any reason/need. Goal is to have two months of expense in reserve. We are at about 11/2 months at this time.

As a reminder, the expenses being down considerably is due to two of the staff positions that were budgeted for have not been filled. This makes up about \$55,000 of the decreased expenses. In June we brought on the Cleaning Service in place of filling the Building Facility Coordinator so for the last half of the year we will have that expense. We also have serveral areas where we are under budget due to the conservative spending by staff and tables. We had additional financial gifts this month vs. plan that made a huge impact! Thank you!

Thank you for your support of the Ministry here at Our Saviors!

# **October Noisy Offering**

Hope Center

The HOPE Center provides free, confidential support for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and harassment in Rice County. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It shines a light on the impact of abuse, honors survivors, and encourages prevention. Locally, efforts like the Faribault Police Department and Chamber's purple patch campaign help raise awareness and funds for the HOPE Center's vital work in building safety and healing in our community.

(159.95)

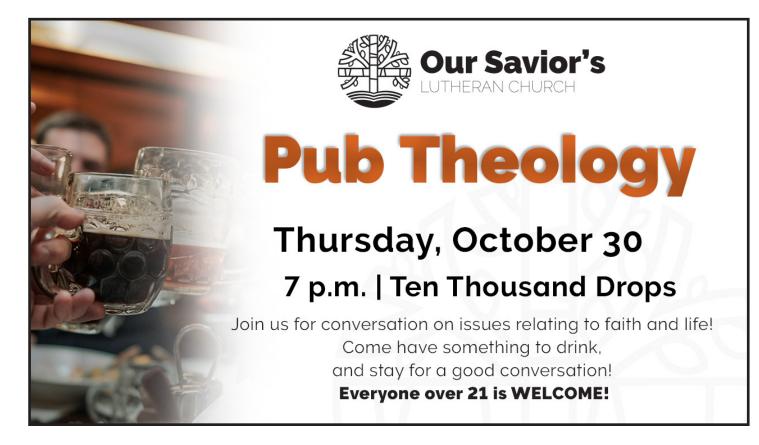
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# **FELLOWSHIP EVENTS AT OSLC**



Join us for our October Meeting

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall



# **COUNCIL CORNER**

Dear Members of Our Saviors.

Your church council met on Tuesday, September 16th. As a council, we continue to work our way through the book "Anatomy of a Revived Church" as part of our vision for the church. The questions asked at the end of each chapter are sparking conversation, insight, reflection, honesty as we consider what the future of OSLC looks like. We looked at the traditions of the congregation and how those shape us, as well as those metrics and data points that show us where we're at and where we're going.

One of the key points often brought up when talking about the traditions of Our Saviors is in our dedication to youth programming, and on Wednesday the 17th, we were able to celebrate the start of our fall programming as well as honor Kathy Putrah and the Putrah Family for their gift in establishing the Kathleen G. Putrah Director of Children's Ministry endowment fund supporting the youth ministry and education at Our Saviors for years to come.

The Spring Table recommended two grants be approved by council. Council approved a grant for the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library sponsored by Rice County Area United Way to provide books to children in the community and a grant for the Community Action Center's Ridgeview Heights project, providing emergency shelters for families experiencing homelessness.

In line with being good stewards of our community, we're looking at ways to be good stewards of our own facilities. There will be some projects taken on to improve the functionality of our building, using space more efficiently and appropriately in such ways that will also.

The council wants specifically to thank the Henry's Handy Helpers for the many ways they respond to the needs of the property. Be it helping to improve the functional space of the church, restriping the parking lot, and the many ways you show up and dedicate yourself to keeping the building going, thank you.

And lastly, a thank you to those of you that attended the State of the Church on September 21st. We know that there are some realities we need to face and challenges as well as opportunities and successes ahead, and we appreciate your candor, honesty, and willingness to share those with us.

We appreciate all of you, for the many ways in which you continue to share your time, talents, gifts and resources. "Faith grows here" and will flourish because of you.

Our Savior's Council

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

# **Stepping Stone Classes**

**FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS** 

# October 1

# **3RD GRADE**

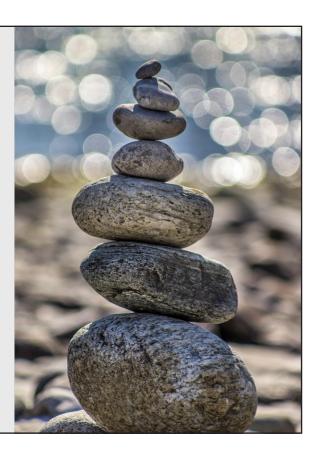
6:30-7:30pm | Fireworks Room PRESENTATION: Sunday, October 5 @ 9:30am

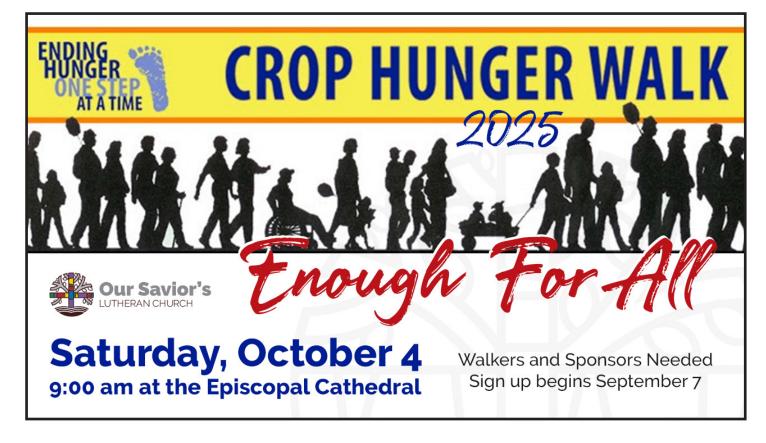
# October 22

3 & 4 YEAR OLDS

6:30-7:30pm | Fireworks Room

PRESENTATION: Sunday, October 26 @ 9:30am





# **YOUTH MINISTRY**



# Join us for the Middle School Lock-in

Friday October 10 | 5 PM - 12 AM

You're invited to a night of fun and connection.

Friends are welcome! Please RSVP to Grace by October 8.



# Our Savior's LUTHERAN CHURCH PROPERTY OF PERU

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2025

1-2:30 pm | OSLC Parking Lot

Wear your costume and join us for treats and Halloween fun!

Everyone is invited to OSLC's annual trunk or treat! Come and get some delicious candy, hot chocolate, and maybe stay to play a game!

Please sign up to volunteer or host a trunk with the QR code.





# High School Youth Aroup

# WEDNESDAYS | 8-9 PM OSLC YOUTH ROOM

Youth in grades 9 -12 are invited to spend your Wednesday night having fun, building community, and learning about God with us.



# **ELLOWSHIP EVENTS AT OSLC**



pastors know how much we appreciate all they do for us and our community. We would like to thank Pr. Kira Anderson and Pr. Drew Yackel for all that they have done for us through out the year.

We are looking for people to play special music in worship throughout the summer. Please contact Wendy in the church office, at wendy@oursaviorsfbo.org, if you are interested in sharing your talents in worship!

# **SERMON TEXT & VOLUNTEERS**





# Beloved Community

"God Provides Manna" Sunday, October 5 Exodus 16: 1-18

"God Calls Samuel" Sunday, October 12 1 Samuel 3:1-21

"God Calls David" Sunday, October 19 1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 51:10-14

> "Solomon's Temple" Sunday, October 26 1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

# **SEPTEMBER USHERS**

RICK BARTNESS © JANE CARSON
DAVE HENRY ROBIN FINKE
MIKE & AMY COOK PAUL & KATHY STEPKA

# COMMUNION

PREP
Ruth Hickey
Ruth Hickey
Ruth Hickey
SERVERS
Fred & Barb Grote
John & Edie Mattson
Amy Stadler
Paula Schauer

OCTOBER 19
Ruth Hickey
Dennis & Rita Wunderlich
Dan & Karen Rasmussen
John Mattson
Jill Finstuen

**OCTOBER 26 (REFORMATION SUNDAY)** 

PREP Mary Osborne

SERVERS Stew & Cindy Schuenke
Allen & Pam Salveson
Harry & Sharon Dell

# **SCRIPTURE READERS**

OCTOBER 5 CHRISTINE SAMMON
OCTOBER 12 JILL FINSTUEN
OCTOBER 19 JOHN MATTSON
OCTOBER 26 KRIS HOYSLER

# **SOUND & TECH TEAM**

**OCTOBER 5** 

**Sound:** Owen Harrison **Media Shout & Lights:** Grace Harrison **Livestream:** Brendan Cox

**OCTOBER 12** 

Sound: Amy Cox Media Shout & Lights: Tim Cox Livestream: Brendan Cox

**OCTOBER 19** 

Sound: Allen Salveson Media Shout & Lights: Linda Hanegraff Livestream: Brendan Cox

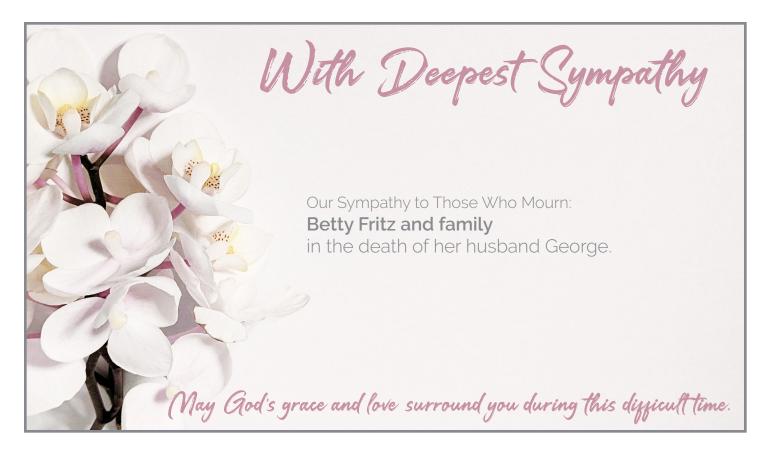
**OCTOBER 26** 

**Sound:** Jordyn Finstuen **Media Shout & Lights:** Jarid Finstuen **Livestream:** Brendan Cox



# **Baptisms & Sympathies**





# Our Savior's Lutheran Church | 1207 Prairie Ave. SW, Faribault, MN 55021

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
			7:00 am 3 Big Question Book Study / Jr & Sr High School (Good Day Coffee) 6:00 pm WOW Service / Comm. 6:30 pm Church School 6:30 pm Confirmation / A Migrant Journey 6:30 pm 3rd Grade Stepping Stone Class 8:00 pm High School Youth	2 8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Dynamic Dusters	3 9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	4 9:00 am Crop Walk 1:00 – 4:30 pm Ruth's House Purple Porch Event
9:30 am Worship / Comm. 9:30 am Baptism Josephine Apollonia Truax and Elliot James Truax 9:30 am 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Stepping Stone Pres. 10:45 am Sunday School	6 3:30 – 5:00 pm Ruth's House Meeting 5:30 pm Property Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Grief Support "Stronger Together"	9:30 am Grief Support "Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 1:00 pm Lamplighters 2:30 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Personnel Meeting	8 7:00 am 3 Big Question Book Study / Jr & Sr High School (Good Day Coffee) 7:30-9:30 am Ruth's House Meeting (Noah's Ark Rm) 6:00 pm WOW Service 6:30 pm Church School 6:30 pm Confirmation / A Migrant Journey 6:30 - 7:30 pm New Members Event 8:00 pm High School Youth	9 8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Dynamic Dusters 9:00 am Quilters 9:30 am Cannon River Conference	9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm – 12:00 am Middle School Lock-In Wedding (Off Site) Adam Erickson & Emily Frisinger	E
9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 pm Clergy Reception 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Gather Table Meeting	6:30 pm Grief Support "Stronger Together" 7:00 – 8:00 pm Faithful Pages (Noah's Ark Room)	9:30 am Grief Support "Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 2:30 pm Staff Meeting	15 MEA Break No Wed. Night Programming	16 8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Faith Circle 10:30 am Dynamic Dusters	9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	18
9:30 am Worship / Comm 10:45 am Sunday School	8:30 am FARE Meeting 6:30 pm Grief Support "Stronger Together"	9:30 am Grief Support "Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 11:30 am FACMA Meeting 2:30 pm Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Executive Council 6:30 pm Church Council	22 Reformation Wednesday 7:00 am 3 Big Question Book Study / Jr & Sr High School (Good Day Coffee) 6:00 pm WOW Service / Comm. 6:30 pm Christian Education 6:30 am 3 & 4 Year Olds Stepping Stone Class 6:30 pm Beloved Community Book Study (Fireside Rm) 7:45 pm Spring Table Meeting 8:00 pm High School Youth	<b>23 8:30 am</b> Henry's Handy Helpers <b>9:00 am</b> Dynamic Dusters <b>9:00 am</b> Quilters	9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	25
26 Reformation Sun. 9:30 am Worship / Comm 9:30 am Temple Talk 9:30 am 3 & 4 Year Olds Stepping Stone Pres. 10:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Team Meeting 1:00 pm Trunk or Treat	<b>27 6:30 pm</b> Grief Support "Stronger Together"	9:30 am Grief Support "Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 1:00 pm Mill City Service 2:30 pm Staff Meeting	7:00 am 3 Big Question Book Study / Jr & Sr High School (Good Day Coffee) 6:00 pm WOW Service / Comm. 6:30 pm Christian Education 6:30 pm Beloved Community Book Study (Fireside Rm) 8:00 pm High School Youth	30 8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 7:00 pm Pub Theology (10,000 Drops)	<b>31 Halloween 9:30 am</b> Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	



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# **STAY CONNECTED**

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### Pr. Kira Anderson

Lead Pastor pastorkira@oursaviorsfbo.org

### Pr. Drew Yackel

Associate Pastor pastordrew@oursaviorsfbo.org

### **Ashley Taylor**

Kathleen G. Putrah Director of Children's Ministry ashley@oursaviorsfbo.org

# **Grace Harrison**

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries grace@oursaviorsfbo.org

# **Wendy Smith-Becker**

Office Coordinator

wendy@oursaviorsfbo.org

# **Pam Salveson**

Financial Secretary

financialsecretary@oursaviorsfbo.org

# **Apply Today!**

Business Administrator oursaviorsfbo.org

# **Micah Lynn**

Congregational Council President churchcouncil@oursaviorsfbo.org



