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WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday at 9:30 am

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 the seasons shift and the air grows crisp, we once again step into a rhythm of worship, study, and community life together. This fall, we return to the beginning—the book of Genesis—and embark on a journey through the Narrative Lectionary. Over the course of the year, we'll move through the entire sweep of Scripture. While we won't read every story, we will trace the grand arc of God's redeeming love: from creation, through the promises to Israel, to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and into the birth of the church.

This journey is more than an intellectual exercise. It is a chance to be shaped as God's beloved community. The Bible is not just a collection of old stories; it is the story of God's love for people throughout all of history. And it is still unfolding in us today. As we listen, learn, and live these stories, we discover again that we are not just readers of Scripture—we are participants in it. God is still creating, redeeming, and calling.

Our theme this year, God's Beloved Community, reminds us that faith is never meant to be a solitary endeavor. To be God's beloved means not only knowing that you are deeply cherished by God, but also discovering how that love binds us to one another. We live out this identity when we gather for worship, when we study together, when we support one another in times of need, and when we seek the flourishing of our neighbors here in Faribault.

The world around us is hungry for signs of God's presence, for glimpses of belovedness in the midst of loneliness, division, and uncertainty. My prayer is that our congregation would be such a sign. This fall, let's open ourselves to be shaped by Scripture in a way that deepens our faith and strengthens our witness. May we not only learn about God's story, but live into it—so that through us, others may catch sight of the God who calls all people beloved.

I look forward to walking this journey with you.

In Christ, Pastor Kira

For the Life of the World

Right in the middle of the hottest time of the year, hundreds of Lutherans from all over the U.S., including myself, traveled to the hottest city in America - Phoenix, AZ. Why, in God's name, would we do such a thing? Well, it's not just because the rates are cheaper when the thermometer hits 115. It was the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, which happens every three years, and serves as our church body's highest legislative authority. I was elected by our synod assembly last year to serve as one of our synod's voting members. Our charge was to prayerfully discern and make decisions about social statements, memorials (what we would call resolutions), constitutional amendments, a triennial budget, and to elect new leaders, such as churchwide council members, a new secretary, and a new presiding bishop. The work we accomplished will impact all of the 2.7 million members and 8,400 worshipping communities of the ELCA in some way. Our theme was "For the Life of the World" which is a phrase taken from the Nicene Creed that emphasizes how we are called to live and serve for the life and well-being of the whole world. I am sharing a few highlights below. I can't do it all justice here, so I encourage you check out Living Lutheran's page that summarizes actions taken each day: https://www.livinglutheran.org/tag/2025-elca-churchwide- assembly/

Yehiel Curry, currently serving as the bishop of Metro Chicago Synod, was elected on the fifth ballot to serve as our next Presiding Bishop of the ELCA. He will be the first Black person serving in that role. After having personally met Bishop Curry last year and hearing his passion and ideas for how our churches can serve our communities and embrace increasingly diverse ways of being the church and raising up leaders from diverse backgrounds, I am hopeful for the vision and leadership he will bring. Before serving as bishop, Rev. Curry served as a pastor and mission developer in Riverdale, IL. Before that he served his community as a social worker and then as a teacher.

Lucille "CeCee" Mills was elected to serve as the next Secretary of the ELCA. She will be the first Black woman to serve in this role. Like Bishop Curry, Rev. Mills came to ordained ministry as a TEEM candidate (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries). She currently serves as an assistant to the bishop in the North Carolina Synod.

The social statement "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust" first adopted in 2009, was updated with revisions to more accurately reflect current church understanding and legal realities.

The social statement "Faith and Civic Life" was presented and adopted.

A number of recommendations were received and adopted from the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church, which examined purpose and structure of various entities of the ELCA, with a particular emphasis on dismantling racism.

A statement on the Filioque was adopted, which reflects decades of dialogue with the Eastern Orthodox churches. This theological statement will hopefully bring us into closer communion with our siblings in the Orthodox traditions.

A number of memorials were debated and approved with amendments, including a memorial that calls on leaders to enact a ceasefire in the Middle East, end Israeli occupation of Gaza and the West Bank, and establish a Palestinian state.

While we weren't always of one mind on every issue, I felt deep unity with everyone through the presence of the Spirit. God was at work in that convention hall in downtown Phoenix, and I sense the Spirit will continue that work in and through all 65 synods and in each congregation. Please keep our newly elected leaders and outgoing leaders in your prayers.

In Christ,

Pr. Drew



God's work. Our hands.

Wear your work clothes to church and shar in God's work throughout our community! We will be going out to serve in our community.

Sunday, September 7, 2025

9:30 am - Worship | 10:00 am - Service projects | 12:00 pm - Lunch and fellowship



Please RSVP to help us plan for the meal Service sites: IRIS, River Bend Nature Center, Ruth's House, OSLC







Pub Theology

Thursday, September 11 7 p.m. | Ten Thousand Drops

Join us for conversation on issues relating to faith and life!

Come have something to drink,

and stay for a good conversation!

Everyone over 21 is WELCOME!

Council Corner

Our Saviors' Council met on Tuesday, August 19th. There was a full agenda to discuss and work through after not meeting in July.

As we transition from summer programming, which included camps, mission trips, Wild Wednesdays, and VBS, to our Fall Programming, we ask students from Pre-K through 12th grade to register by August 31st. Pre-K through 5th graders will have the option of Sundays after worship or Wednesday nights. Confirmation and High School Group will be on Wednesday nights. We will have QR Codes in the bulletins, newsletter, our website, and in the narthex to make registration easy. The first Wednesday of programming will be on September 17th. That same evening, we will honor and celebrate the Putrah family for their generosity in supporting Children's Ministry with the Kathleen G. Putrah Director of Children's Ministry endowment fund. Please stay tuned for further details.

In July, Pastor Kira sent out letters to every household. Those 243 households who have pledged to give in 2025 or have provided financial support received a letter of gratitude, while those 164 households who are members but have not made pledges received a request to consider making a pledge. Our Ministry Spending Plan, approved at the Annual Meeting, still has a shortfall of nearly \$90,000. To break this down, if non-pledged households gave \$29 per week for the rest of the year, we would eliminate that shortfall altogether.

We are working on implementing a QR Code in pews to allow for one-time electronic offerings to the General Fund.

The Council read and discussed chapter 1 of "Anatomy of a Revived Church" called "Accepting Responsibility." We are evaluating how worship and the church have changed in recent years and exploring ways to adapt to cultural and societal shifts to ensure Our Saviors endures for years to come.

To that end, please mark your calendars for Sunday, September 21st, following worship. We will be holding a State of the Church forum to discuss three key topics: the unfilled Business Administrator Position, the current financial update, and the financial trajectory for 2026. We ask that you join the council and pastors for real and perhaps tough conversations as we address some of the opportunities we are facing.

We thank you for the many ways you continue to support the church and its ministry with your gifts, time, and talents. We are grateful for all of you.

Our Saviors Council



THE STATE OF THE CHURCH

A Roundtable Conversation

HONEST CONVERSATIONS | SHARED VISION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST @ 10:45 AM

Join us for an open and honest conversation about the future of Our Savior's. Together with council members, we'll address the realities of our financial deficit, explore how our business administration and budgeting impact ministry.

This roundtable is more than numbers—it's about vision, ministry, and how we faithfully move forward together. If you care about the mission and ministry of Our Savior's, your voice is welcome at the table.

Led by: Church Council Members | Format: Roundtable Discussion

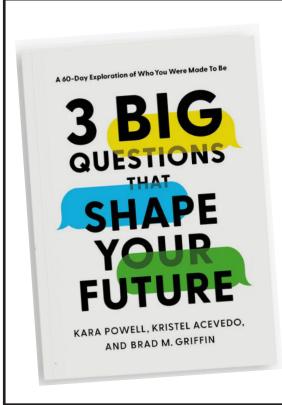




Wednesday October 8th

Following Worship (6:30 pm) | Fireside Room

Looking for a place to deepen your faith and connect with others? Join us for our New Membership Event at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. All are welcome to come explore 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!



Junior & Senior High Students

Join Us

Starting Wednesday, September 10, 7:00 a.m. @ Good Day Coffee

We will be reading "3 Big **Questions that Shape** Your Future," to have conversations on identity, belonging, and purpose.





Save a Life, Give Blood



Scan to schedule an appointment.

Monday, September 29, 2025 11 am - 5 pm in the Chapel

Please use the Red Cross Donor App, call 1-800-733-2767, or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: OSLC to schedule an appointment.

Scan to Volunteer





Civil Rights Pilgrimage

Join Pr. Kira and Pr. Joanne Sorensen on a Civil Rights Pilgrimage. As one of the Beloved Community events we hope that 20 people will join us for this travel experience to the south as we visit and consider famous landmarks from the Civil Rights movement of the 60's. A sacred time to remember tragic history. Each evening we will spend time together in conversation to honor the experience and remind us how we are called to be "beloved community" today. We will be challenged and inspired as we travel together with open heart of understanding. Leading up to this 6 day trip we will meet once a month for 3 months to learn history and experiences that will prepare us to be immersed in this experience.

Informational Meeting; September 28th immediately following worship

Date: February 25th - March 2nd (Wednesday - Monday) | Cost: \$2,100.00

(cost includes: flight, transportation while gone, hotel, a few meals, entrance fees, & Pastor's travel fee) **Deposit \$200.00 due by October 26th**

Check out Pr. Sorensen's website before our meeting to learn more. inourhandsadventures.com

Financial Update

2025	t Figures Financials rrough July 2025			
		Actual	Ministry	Difference
July Reciepts	\$	40,514	\$ 36,000	\$ 4,514
July Expenses	\$	(60,820)	\$ (63,093)	\$ 2,272
Receipts Over Expenses	\$	(20,307)	\$ (27,093)	\$ 6,786
				\$ -
YTD Receipts	\$	359,705	\$ 343,250	\$ 16,455
YTD Expenses	\$	(371,476)	\$ (429,359)	\$ 57,882
Receipts Over Expenses	\$	(11,771)	\$ (86,109)	\$ 74,338
Balance Sheet Recap		Actual	Beginning	Change
Total cash on hand as of 07-31-2025	\$	241,169.39	\$ 260,471.12	\$ (19,301.73)
Total cash Designated for specific purposes (restricted ac	counts) \$	175,370.80	\$ 182,901.73	\$ (7,530.93)
Leaving a cash balance for General Operating expenses of	\$	65,798.59	\$ 77,569.39	\$ (11,770.80)

July is finalized.

Giving compared to plan is up 12.54% or \$4,514

Expenses are down compared to plan <-3.60%> or <-\$2,272>

Year to Date:

Giving compared to plan is up +4.79% or \$16,455 Expenses are down compared to plan <-13.48%> or <-\$74,338>

Total Cash in General Operating Account is \$67,798.59 this is the cash we have access to for any reason/need. Goal is to have two months of expense in reserve. We are closer to only having one month at this time.

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

September Noisy Offering

~ATTENTION~

Crop Walk for Hunger

Step up, give back, and make a difference! The Faribault CROP Walk brings our community together to fight hunger both locally and around the world. Every step you take helps provide food, clean water, and vital resources to families in need. Gather your friends, family, or team and walk with purpose as we work toward ending hunger—one step at a time.



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!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Stepping Stone Classes

FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

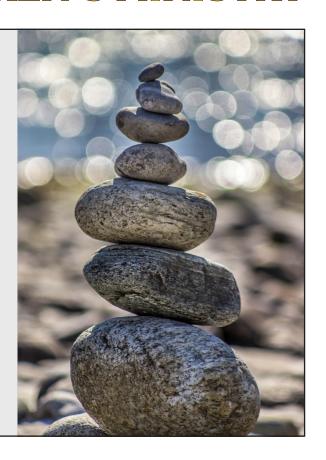
MARK YOUR CALENDARS September 24

KINDERGARTEN

6:30-7:30 | Fireworks Room

6TH GRADE

6:30-7:30 | Chapel





Save the Dates

September 10th | 5-7:30 PM

Christian Education Volunteer Training

faith grows here

Book Studies

welling in the More Tuesdays | 9:30-10:30 AM | The Narthex

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.

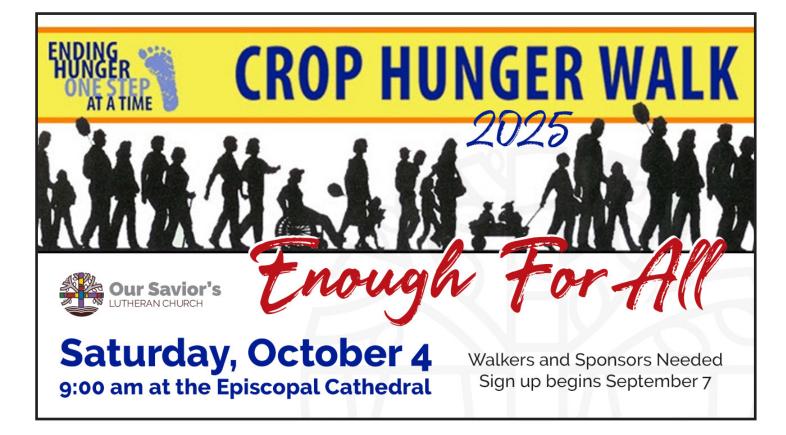




Join us for our September Meeting

Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 12 PM in the Fellowship Halls

Our Speaker is Amanda Kintzi a Volunteer & Outreach Specialist from Family Service Rochester



It's time to launch into another exciting year of faith, fun, and friendship! Join us as we kick off our Wednesday School programming, Confirmation Classes and High School Youth Group for the school year! Whether your child is just starting in Wednesday or Sunday School, joining Confirmation, or diving into Youth Group, we have a place for everyone.

> Mednesday September 17

Worship @ 6 pm Kickoff @ 6:45 pm Youth Group @ 8pm

We can't wait to walk alongside your family this year — growing in faith, and making memories together. Come be a part of it!

Haven't Registered Vet? Use the QR Codes to sign up for Programming TODAY!

Wednesday/ Sunday SchoolPre-K to 5th Grade



Confirmation Grades 6th-8th





Our Savior's Lutheran Church is gearing up for an exciting year of faith formation—and we need YOU to make it happen! Whether you're a seasoned teacher, a great listener, a craft-lover, or simply have a heart for kids and youth, there's a place for you in our **Christian Education Ministry**.

We're looking for volunteers to serve as:

- Wednesday & Sunday School Teachers
- Confirmation Mentors
- Youth Group Leaders
- Special Event Helpers

No experience is necessary—just a willingness to share your time and faith. **Training and support are provided!**

Be a part of something meaningful. Help shape the next generation of disciples. Interested? Contact Ashley Taylor (for Wednesday & Sunday School teachers) at ashley@oursaviorsfbo.org or Grace Harrison (Confirmation & Youth Group) at grace@oursaviorsfbo.org or sign up in the Church Office.



High School Youth Aroup

Fall Kickoff September 17

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.



Dutrah Dedication - Programming Vickory Celebration

Wednesday, September 17

FREE MEAL Please RSVP with the

QR code

WORSHIP & Honor of the Endowment

Fellowship and Fun as we kick off the programming year.

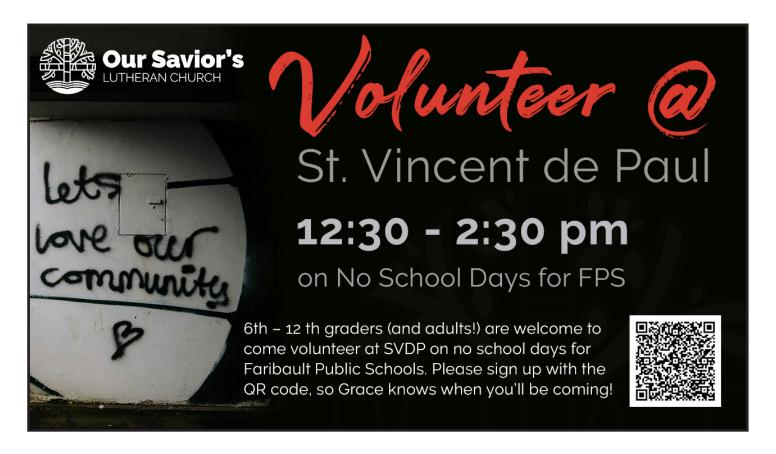
Join us for a special evening as we recognize the generosity of the Putrah family and their lasting gift to the Children and Youth of Our Savior's. This joyful event also marks the first Wednesday night of our Children and Youth programming!

We'll begin with a free meal, followed by worship and the dedication of the Putrah gift. Immediately after, families are invited to stay and enjoy a fun-filled carnival with games and activities for all ages.

Please RSVP for the MEAL



Scan the QR Code to help us plan





SERMON TEXT & VOLUNTEERS

September



Beloved Community

"Creation by the Word"
Sunday, September 7
Genesis 1:1-2, 4a

"Binding of Isaac" Sunday, September 14 Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

"Jacob's Dream"
Sunday, September 21
Genesis 27:1-4; 15-23; 28:10-17

"God's Name is Revealed" Sunday, September 28 Exodus 2:23-25; 3:10-15; 4:10-17

SEPTEMBER USHERS

PETER ROBERTS ©
KAREN CHURCHILL
JERRY & PAULA SCHAUER

LARRY CHURCHILL © LYLE & RUTH OLSON LINDA MUELLER

COMMUNION

SEPTEMBER 21

PREP Ruth Olson SERVERS Evon Ask

Barb Condit Paula Schauer Jill Finstuen Angel Yackel Ardys Johnson

SCRIPTURE READERS

SEPTEMBER 7 LINDA MUELLER
SEPTEMBER 14 JORDYN FINSTUEN
SEPTEMBER 21 PEGGY PAULSON
SEPTEMBER 28 DICK HUSTON

SOUND & TECH TEAM

SEPTEMBER 7

Sound: Owen Harrison
Livestream: Brendan Cox

Media Shout & Lights: Grace Harrison

SEPTEMBER 14

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

SEPTEMBER 21

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

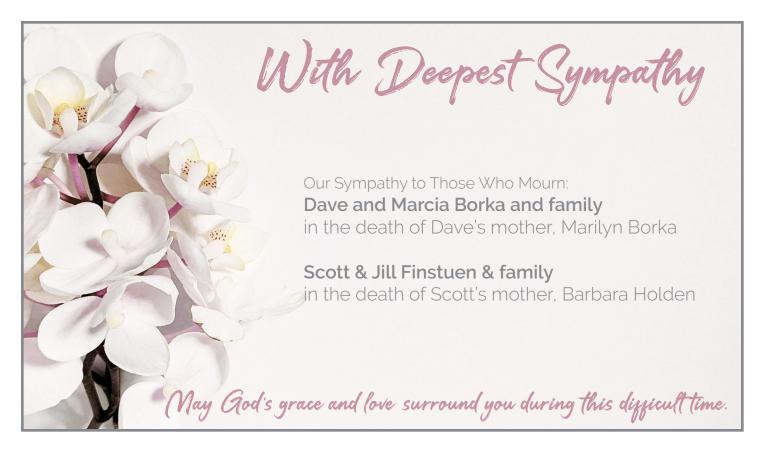
SEPTEMBER 28

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

faith grows here

Baptisms & Sympathies





SEPTEMBER 2025 Our Savior's Lutheran Church | 1207 Prairie Ave. SW, Faribault, MN 55021

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 Labor Day Office Closed	9:30 am Grief Support "Help for the Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 1:00 pm Lamplighters 2:30 pm Staff Meeting	3 8:00 pm High School Youth	4 8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Dynamic Dusters	5 9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	g
7 9:30 am God's Work Our Hands Service Sunday 12:00 pm OS Congregational Picnic.	8 3:30 – 5:00 pm Ruth's House Meeting 6:00 pm Property Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Grief Support "Stronger Together" 7:00 – 8:00 pm Faithful Pages (Noah's Ark Room)	9 9:30 am Grief Support "Help for the Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 2:30 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Free Spirit Rehearsal	7:30-9:30 am Ruth's House Meeting (Noah's Ark Rm) 5:00 – 7:30 pm Safety Training for Church School & Confirmation Volunteers 6:00 – 8:00 pm Personnel Committee Meeting 8:00 pm High School Youth	8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Dynamic Dusters 9:00 am Quilters 9:30 am Cannon River Conference 3:00 – 6:00 pm Ruth's House (Chapel) 7:00 pm Pub Theology (Joe's Sports Café)	12 9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	13
9:30 am Worship Service 10:45 am Gather Table Meeting	8:30 am FARE (In case of rain) 6:30 pm Grief Support "Stronger Together"	16 9:30 am Grief Support "Help for 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 6:30 pm Free Spirit Rehearsal	17 1st Night of Wednesday Programing Welcome Back Wednesday 5:00 pm Meal / Putrah Endowment Celebration 6:00 pm WOW Service / Comm & Celebration 8:00 pm High School Youth	18 8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Faith Circle 10:30 am Dynamic Dusters	19 9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	20 Wedding Off Site Stacy Lehman & Derek Germann
21 Rally Sunday 9:30 am Worship / Comm Free Spirit Celebration 9:30 am Temple Talk 10:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am State of the Church Conversation	6:30 pm Grief Support "Stronger Together"	9:30 am Grief Support "Help for Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 1:00 pm Mill City 2:30 pm Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Young Adult Trivia (Crooked Pint)	6:00 pm WOW Service / Comm. 6:30 pm Church School & Confirmation 6:30 pm Kindergarten Stepping Stone Class 6:30 pm 6 th Grade Stepping Stone Class 7:45 pm Spring Table Meeting 8:00 pm High School Youth	8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Dynamic Dusters 9:00 am Quilters	26 9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	27 Wedding Off Site Ali Schak & Dahlton Fillipi
28 Christ the King 9:30 am Worship / Comm 9:30 am Kindergarten Stepping Stone Pres. 9:30 pm 6th Grade Stepping Stone Pres. 10:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Info Meeting Civil Rights Pligrimage Trip	11:00 am – 5:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive 6:30 pm Grief Support "Stronger Together"	30 9:30 am Grief Support "Help for Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 2:30 pm Staff Meeting				



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Associate Pastor pastordrew@oursaviorsfbo.org

Ashley Taylor

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

Grace Harrison

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Wendy Smith-Becker

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Pam Salveson

Financial Secretary

financialsecretary@oursaviorsfbo.org

Apply Today!

Business Administrator oursaviorsfbo.org

Micah Lynn

Congregational Council President churchcouncil@oursaviorsfbo.org

Faith grows here

THE STATE OF THE CHURCH

A Roundtable Conversation

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST @ 10:45 AM

All are Welcome