



Our Savior's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 2026

NEWSLETTER

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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,

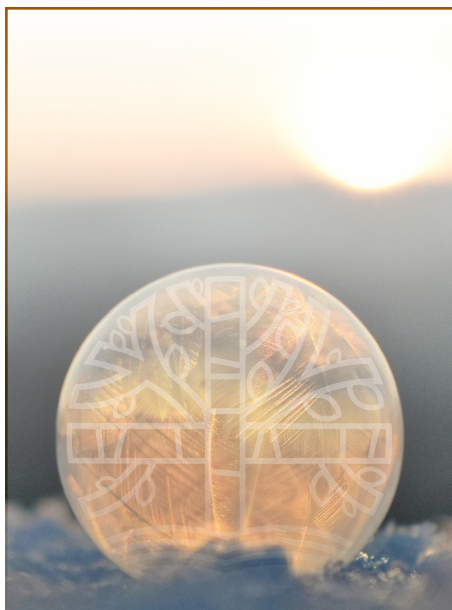
As we enter the season of Lent, we do so with the language of the wilderness close at hand. The wilderness is not only a place in the biblical story—it is a space many of us recognize in our own lives and in the world around us. It is the in-between terrain where things feel uncertain, where old assumptions no longer hold, and where vulnerability feels closer to the surface. We may sense it in our personal lives, in our communities, or in the wider world—moments when we feel exposed, weary, or unsure of what comes next.

Lent invites us to notice these wilderness places rather than rush past them. It gives us permission to slow down, to be honest about what we are carrying, and to reflect on how the world we are living in shapes our fears, our hopes, and our longing for God. In the wilderness, we are reminded that we are not self-sufficient—and that grace often meets us not when we are strong, but when we are most aware of our need.

This season does not ask us to solve the wilderness or make sense of everything we encounter. Instead, Lent offers space: space to listen, to pray, to repent, and to trust that God is present even when the path feels unclear. Together, we walk these days held by a God who remains faithful in uncertain terrain.

May this Lenten season bless you with courage to be honest, gentleness toward yourself and others, and trust that even in the wilderness—especially in the wilderness—God is near, sustaining you and leading you toward life.

In Christ,
Pastor Kira



Save the Date

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday,

February 1, 2026

10:45 AM

following Worship

ROOTED IN GOD'S LOVE. GATHERED AS CHRIST'S COMMUNITY. SPRINGING INTO JOYFUL DISCIPLESHIP.

Council Update

Dear Members of Our Saviors,

The January Meeting is the final time the church council meets as this particular group of leaders, as the terms of some end come the Annual Meeting, which as a reminder is going to be following worship on February 1st.

Pastor Barb Streed from the Synod office joined the meeting to discuss moving forward with pastoral staffing. We are looking at a number of options in considering what is best for the church at this time, considering feedback from the State of the Church and other broader discussions as well as looking at how to best support Pastor Kira, the staff, and the congregation as a whole. We will be utilizing Pulpit Supply to help provide worship support for Pastor Kira.

This discussion tied in well for our visioning, which focused on goal setting for 2026. The council members were asked to bring forth their hopes for the church in 2026. From there we arrived at the following statement: Our goal is to be a community where all are welcome, and every generation has a place to belong. We are committed to fostering a thriving environment of fellowship and spiritual growth while providing intentional small group ministries at each age level where all people can attend and get involved. By strengthening our small group ministries and creating intentional connections, we seek to move every person from a seat in the pews to active involvement, fully utilizing our church as a hub for life-changing faith.

One of the ways we will be doing this is by developing a task force to review the 2009 Statement on who is welcome at Our Saviors. If you are interested in being a part of this, please contact a council member or Pr. Kira. There will be opportunities for larger roundtable discussions as part of this review.

The council also approved the 2026 Ministry Spending Plan (the budget) which will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

The meeting closed by celebrating those council members whose terms have come to an end. We want to thank Rita Wunderlich, Krista Cox, and Jarid Finstuen for their faithful service over these past few years, as well Micah Lynn for his leadership as our Council President for the past 18 months.

In faithful service,
The Our Saviors Church Council.

Fast Figures
2025 Financials
 Finalized through December 2025

	Actual	Ministry	Difference
December Receipts	\$ 95,475	\$ 109,750	\$ (14,275)
December Expenses	\$ (56,566)	\$ (63,296)	\$ 6,730
Receipts Over Expenses	\$ 38,909	\$ 46,455	\$ (7,545)
			\$ -
YTD Receipts	\$ 696,052	\$ 642,954	\$ 53,098
YTD Expenses	\$ (642,715)	\$ (732,705)	\$ 89,990
Receipts Over Expenses	\$ 53,337	\$ (89,751)	\$ 143,088

Balance Sheet Recap	Actual	Beginning	Change
Total cash on hand as of 12-31-2025	\$ 325,216.38	\$ 260,471.12	\$ 64,745.26
Total cash Designated for specific purposes (restricted accounts)	\$ 194,309.78	\$ 182,901.73	\$ 11,408.05
Leaving a cash balance for General Operating expenses of	\$ 130,906.60	\$ 77,569.39	\$ 53,337.21

December is finalized.
 Giving compared to plan was down 13.01% or <-\$14,275>
 Expenses are down compared to plan <-10.63%> or <-\$6,730>

Year to Date:
 Giving compared to plan is up +12.64% or \$53,098
 Expenses are down compared to plan <-12.44%> or <-\$89,990>

Total Cash in General Operating Account is \$130,906.60 this is the cash we have access to for any reason/need. Goal is to have two months of expense in reserve. We exceed that! THANK YOU!

December is typically are strongest giving month, and that holds true in 2025 also!

The generosity is humbling and we are so grateful for each and everyone of you who work together to make wonderful things happen.



Our Savior's
 LUTHERAN CHURCH

Now Hiring!

Business Administrator

Manage the business operations of the church, implementing and overseeing financial, human resources, and general operations of our vibrant church!

Full Time | Benefits

High School Diploma and 3 years experience in financial management, budget oversight, Microsoft Word and Excel.

Submit a resume and cover letter to churchcouncil@oursaviorsfbo.org

For the full job description visit: oursaviorsfbo.org

Fellowship Events



VALENTINE'S DAY

Cake Walk

Sunday, February 8th
Chapel | Following the Service

Bring a Valentine's Day treat
or two in order to participate.

All are Welcome!



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Join Us

Ash Wednesday G.I.F.F.T Event

February 18, 2026
4-6 PM or 7:30-8 PM
The Chapel

You are invited to join us on Ash Wednesday,
before or after worship service in the chapel
for a special activity to remind us of the
meaning of Lent. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Book Studies



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dwelling in the Word

Tuesdays | 9:30-10:30 AM | The Narthex

Join Pastor Kira **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 Pastor, 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 Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH



A book club for women
looking to connect
outside of church!

Join Us!

Our next gathering is on
Monday, February 9, 7-8pm
at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

We'll be discussing
"When Breath Becomes Air"
by Paul Kalanith

Let's dive deep into faith together.
Interested? Send me a text (507)412-1060
or email pastorkira@oursaviorsfbo.org
to start this journey with us!

Worship Life Updates



SAFETY *Update*

**PRAIRIE DOORS - WEST DOORS
will be locked during worship.**

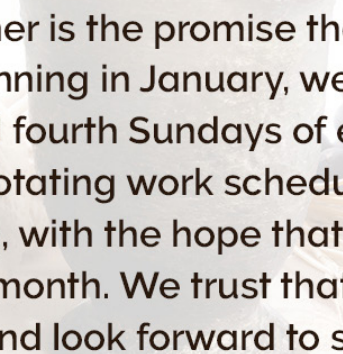
For safety, the Prairie doors will remain locked during worship. Please have one usher stationed there from 9:10–9:35 to assist those entering from that side and to show worshipers how to exit (press the handle to unlock).

Contact Pr. Kira with any questions.
This helps maintain both accessibility and building security.



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Making Room at the Table Communion on the 3rd & 4th Sundays



At the heart of our life together is the promise that Christ meets us at the table with grace for all. Beginning in January, we will celebrate Holy Communion on the third and fourth Sundays of each month. This schedule reflects care for those with rotating work schedules and for families navigating shared parenting, with the hope that more people can receive communion at least once a month. We trust that Christ continues to welcome us just as we are and look forward to sharing this meal together.

Fellowship Events

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Ash Wednesday

Worship Services

February 18, 2026

4:30 PM - Holden Evening Worship

6 PM - Praise Band Worship

faith grows here.

Join Us at 4:30 PM on Wednesdays during Lent

Holden Evening Worship

February 25 | March 4 | March 11
March 18 | March 25

Soup Supper will follow!



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fellowship Events

Join Us for the Annual



Lamplighters

Adult Christians Lighting the Way

Appreciation Luncheon

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

at 12 PM in the Fellowship Hall

Our Savior's Staff invites all Lamplighters for some Good Food and BINGO

Share the Gift of Coffee



Coffee on Sunday mornings doesn't happen by itself—and we'd love a few more helping hands. Preparing coffee and doing light cleanup is a simple, meaningful way to show hospitality and help others feel at home. This role includes brewing coffee before worship and a quick tidy afterward (no cup washing, we promise). No special skills are needed—just a willingness to serve and enjoy good fellowship. Scheduling is flexible, and training is provided. If Sunday coffee has ever helped you feel welcome at Our Savior's, this is a wonderful way to extend that same welcome to others.

If you're interested, please contact Ashley. Thank you for helping make Sunday mornings warm—in more ways than one.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Stepping Stone Classes

FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

February 4

2ND GRADE

6:30–7:30pm | Fellowship Hall

PRESENTATION: Wednesday, February 11
during the 6:00pm worship service.

We are no longer presenting stepping stones on Sundays.



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

PreK-1st Grade

Rio

Saturday, February 14

4:30-7:30 PM

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Fireworks Room

YOUTH MINISTRY

Current 6th, 7th & 8th Graders!



Save the Date

Confirmation Camp

June 14-19, 2026

Mark your calendars and watch for more information!



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

High School Youth Group

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.



Join Us. All Are Welcome

SERMON TEXT & VOLUNTEERS

February

"The Woman at the Well"

Sunday, February 1

John 4:1-42

"Healing Stories"

Sunday, February 8

John 4:46-54

"The Man Born Blind"
(Transfiguration)

Sunday, February 15

John 9:1-41

"Jesus Raises Lazarus"

Sunday, February 22

John 11:1-44

FEBRUARY USHERS

RICK BARTNESS ©
DAVE HENRY
MIKE & AMY COOK

JANE CARSON
ROBIN FINKE
PAUL & KATHY STEPKA

COMMUNION

PREP

SERVERS

FEBRUARY 15

Ruth Olson
Fred & Barb Grote
Paula Schauer
Linda Mueller
Amy Stadler
Jill Finstuen

FEBRUARY 22

Ruth Olson
Dennis & Rita Wunderlich
Dan & Karen Rasmussen
Evon Ask
Pam Salvesson

SCRIPTURE READERS

FEBRUARY 1 DONN JOHNSON

FEBRUARY 15 JILL FINSTUEN

FEBRUARY 8 EVON ASK

FEBRUARY 22 JORDYN FINSTUEN

SOUND & TECH TEAM

FEBRUARY 1

Sound: Jordyn Finstuen
Livestream: Brendan Cox

Media Shout & Lights: Jarid Finstuen

FEBRUARY 8

Sound: Allen Salvesson
Livestream: Brendan Cox

Media Shout & Lights: Linda Hanegraff

FEBRUARY 15

Sound: Amy Cox
Livestream: Brendan Cox

Media Shout & Lights: Tim Cox

FEBRUARY 22

Sound: Jordyn Finstuen
Livestream: Brendan Cox

Media Shout & Lights: Jarid Finstuen



Fellowship Events



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lenten Soup Suppers


Wednesdays during Lent
5-6 pm | Fellowship Room

February 18 - March 25


Meals Include: Choice of soupbread, crackers, and salad.

\$7 Per Person
\$20 Per Family Cap


Ages 2 and Under are FREE!



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH




**American
Red Cross
Blood
Drive**



Save a Life, Give Blood

Monday, February 9, 2026
11 am - 5 pm in the Chapel



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

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

We NEED Volunteers to help work the sign in table and the snack table. Please call Wendy at 507-331-2276 to Volunteer to help.

Fellowship Events



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Join our Worship **TECH TEAM**

Every Sunday, worship at Our Savior's is made possible by many hands – some visible, some quietly working behind the scenes. Sound, slides, livestream, and microphones help the Word be heard, prayers be shared, and the gathered community feel connected whether in the pews or worshipping from home. Please consider joining our Worship Tech Team. You don't need to be an expert, training is provided, and you won't be doing this alone! What matters most is a willingness to serve and be part of the worship life of our community in meaningful way!

Please reach out to Pastor Kira or Wendy to join this amazing team!



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Confirmation Mini Service Trip Fundraiser

Pie Auction

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Narthex | 4-7:30 PM



We have 12 students attending the Mini Service Trip for Middle School. Each student is being asked to donate 1 pie. As a way to support our kids on this trip we are hoping that each pie brings in \$33.00 to cover the cost of the Fundraiser.

Sympathies



With Deepest Sympathy

Our Sympathy to Those Who Mourn:

Kathie Hanson and family

in the death of her husband, Stan Hanson.

(May God's grace and love surround you during this difficult time.)






Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lenten Food Challenge

Ash Wednesday - Palm Sunday
February 18 - March 29, 2026

The friendly food collection challenge with our Community partners will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. The final day for donations is Palm Sunday, March 29th. You are invited to bring a food item (or several) each time you come to the church. Cash donations are also welcome. **Please bring donations to the Front Office or leave them in the carts in the Narthex.** This drive benefits the Community Action Center right here in Faribault. Thank you for your generosity!

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
1 9:30 am Worship Service. 10:45 am Our Savior's Annual Meeting 11:00am – 3:00 pm Civil Rights Trip Meeting 	2 5:30 pm Property Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Grief Support	3 9:30 am Grief Support "Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 12:00 pm OS Staff Host Lamplighters Luncheon 2:30 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Personnel Meeting	4 6:00 pm WOW Service 6:30 pm Christian Education 6:30 pm 2 nd Grade Stepping Stone Class 8:00 pm High School Youth	5 8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Dynamic Dusters	6 9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	7 8:30 am – 3:00 pm Beau Chant Choir Retreat
8 9:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am 2026 Church Council Installation 10:45 am Gather Table Meeting 10:45 am Valentine's Cake Walk (Chapel)	9 11:00 am – 5:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive 6:30 pm Grief Support 7:00 pm Faithful Pages (Noah's Ark Rm) 	10 9:30 am Grief Support "Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 2:30 pm Staff Meeting	11 7:00 – 9:00 am Ruth's House Meeting (Noah's Ark Rm) 6:00 pm WOW Service/ Comm. 6:00 pm 2 nd Grade Stepping Stone Presentation 6:00 pm 2026 Church Council Installation 6:30 pm Christian Education 7:00 – 8:00 pm Civil Rights Trip Meeting 8:00 pm High School Youth	12 8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Dynamic Dusters 9:00 am Quilters 9:30 am Cannon River Conference	13 9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study Confirmation Mini Service Trip	14 Valentine's Day 10:00 am – 1:00 pm Family Gathering Baby Shower 4:30 pm Movie Night (PreK-1 st Grade) Confirmation Mini Service Trip 
15 9:30 am Worship Service / Comm.	16 Presidents' Day 3:30 – 5:00 pm Ruth's House Meeting (Noah's Ark Rm) 6:30 pm Grief Support	17 9:30 am Grief Support "Newly Bereaved" 9:30 – 10:30 am Dwelling in the Word 11:30 am FACMA Meeting (Our Savior's) 2:30 pm Staff Meeting 5:00 pm Church Council w/ Staff	18 Ash Wednesday 4:00 - 7:30 pm Pie Auction 4:30 pm Holden Evening Worship Service 5:00 – 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Suppers 6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service / Comm. 7:00 pm Christian Education 8:00 pm High School Youth	19 8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Faith Circle 10:30 am Dynamic Dusters	20 9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	21 11:30 am Family Gathering Baby Shower
22 9:30 am Worship / Comm 9:30 am Temple Talk	23 6:30 pm Grief Support	24 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	25 4:30 pm Holden Evening Worship Service 5:00 pm Lenten Soup Suppers 6:00 pm Lenten Worship Service 6:30 pm Christian Education 7:45 pm Spring Table Meeting 8:00 pm High School Youth Civil Rights Pilgrimage Trip (Feb. 25 – March 2 nd)	26 8:30 am Henry's Handy Helpers 9:00 am Dynamic Dusters 9:00 am Quilters	27 9:30 am Friday Morning Women's Bible Study	28



Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH
1207 Prairie Ave. S. | Faribault, MN 55021

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oursaviorsfbo.org



Pr. Kira Anderson

Lead Pastor
pastorkira@oursaviorsfbo.org

Ashley Taylor

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

Faith grows here.

PRAY



together

WEDNESDAYS

7-7:30 PM | Fireside Room

Our Savior's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Join us as we spend time in prayer together, creating space for the Spirit to guide us and gently hold our hearts in this season.

All are Welcome

1207 Prairie Avenue, Faribault MN, 55021