

A Little Bit of Sunshine

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October 2025



Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Philippians 4:4-8

The Apostle Paul was nothing if not confident. His advice to the Christians in Philippi not to fret would sound almost Pollyannaish if not for the fact that it was coming from a man who knew what it was like to have every reason for worry. His confidence in Jesus was forged in the fires of personal testing, and one can only imagine how many times he must have wondered about his future.

You and I are both going into a season of change: I into retirement and you to discerning new pastoral leadership. Both come with their own anxieties and fears, but each with their own unique opportunities. It's been said that variety (change) is the spice of life... and things are about to get a whole lot spicier for all of us.

I've never retired before, so I'm kind of at a loss regarding what to leave you with here. Time and space left to me are not nearly adequate to express the thankfulness inside of me to all of you for inviting me into your lives these last thirteen years. I can honestly say I learned many lessons from you in our time together on how (and how not) to be a better pastor. I tried as best as I was able to put those lessons into practice. Sometimes I succeeded (by the grace of God) and sometimes I failed miserably (by my own blindness). But in all of it, I have been blessed... and I take my leave with a full, thankful heart.

The staff I had the pleasure of working with over these years is second to none: Laura Campbell, Beth Nielsen, Julie Lee, Lisa Williams, Chris Blain, Derek Hayford... not to mention the dozens of key volunteers, committed Church Council members, and vibrant ministry teams that make OSLC a shining beacon of faith, love and service in this community.

We've been through some stuff together: hailstorms, flooded basements and oh, yeah... a pandemic. One hundred and sixty-five funerals, one hundred and ninety-five baptisms, fifty-four weddings and a dozen Julefests. 😊 Lots of milestones and celebrations... but by far the best for me has been the thousands of worship services we've shared together over the years, simply gathering to receive God's healing grace and then return our thanks. Keep on doing that.

My wife and I launched our children into adulthood from this place. I like to think that I'm being launched too now, into adventures not yet clear to me, but surrounded by the prayers of you, my friends.

I take Paul's words in Philippians 4:4-8 as his counsel to me as I leave you: to rejoice in all of it... to not worry... to keep praying... to take the best of our shared time with me and leave the rest in the past where it belongs. And then I hope to take all that you have taught me about serving Jesus, through your witness and example, and be your ambassadors for Jesus' sake into the next phase of my journey.

With Love and Gratitude,

Pastor Stephan Sandness

Dear Our Savior's,

Greetings. My name is Randy Fett. I have been serving as a certified Intentional Interim Pastor for the last years of my ministry career. Most recently, I served full time Interim pastorates at larger churches with large staff in Sioux Falls, SD, Moorhead, MN, Hudson, WI, and Rapid City, SD. In August of 2023 my wife, Jan, and I moved to Rapid City, SD to make that our retirement home. Jan retired from her nursing career that Fall. We also have a cabin in the Custer/ Pringle, SD area of the southern Black Hills. I served as Associate pastor at Our Savior's from 1997 – 2004, alongside of Senior Pastor Kent Stillson, and Deacon Laura Campbell, so Spearfish and Our Savior's is home in a way.

I will be commuting from Rapid City. My work week will consist of Sunday mornings, Office hours Monday – Wednesday, typically 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, openings for evening meetings those days, and Wednesday evening worship. On Thursdays I will be working from home. I will be available 24-7 as your Pastor to call for emergencies. This is a “one-for-three” call as I see it. Our SD Synod Bishop has asked me to serve in this Interim time, and Our Saviors' church council has agreed to the full-time ministry contract. You will have two full-time plus ministry staff who will have retired with long, valued, and blessed tenures at Our Savior's. In addition to this I have specific Intentional Interim work that needs to be attended to, which makes it seem like a “one for all three” position, as I say. 50 % of my work in the first 4-6 months will be focused on the Interim work. The other 50 % is the normal work of the Senior Pastor, but realize this will be half of the typical Senior Pastor work with you. Then there is the added layer of Deacon/Lay Ministry work that gets added into the mix of this second 50%. This will be a time for transition and navigation. The core ministry tasks will be tended to. I am committed to this time with you, for the time, the ministry, and the commitment that it will take. I will be working closely with the church council to attend to the duties that are called for at the top and that need attention.

I often share two images when describing the Interim time:

The first image is “Breathing Time”. It's like after a hard-fought ball game and contest, you need to just take a breather and recuperate. This posture leads into breathing time. In the book of Genesis God breathed life into the human creation. In the gospels Jesus breathed on the disciples before his departure. We will be praying together during this time for the spirit to “Breathe” on Our Savior's, to keep the faith alive, to bring new energy and enthusiasm for the future. We will be praying for the ultimate goal of a new ministry team. Interim time is the time between full-time called permanent pastorate/ ministry teams. Interim helps you bridge the gap between the times and still stay steady. There is naturally the sense of loss of your long tenured ministry team. Grief takes time. I think it was at least two years before I got over and felt okay at the death of my father many years ago. I want to encourage you to be honest and transparent about the impact that these loving people have had on your life. I will help you with that.

The second image that I have used is of “Artistically Painting a Canvas”. We each have an experience with the church, and intermingle with the various ministries of the church, in a myriad of ways. If I were to ask you to put that up on a canvas and ask you to paint, what color would you choose? Would you design an abstract painting, or would it be painted with great detail? I am good at broad strokes of paint when painting a wall in our house. My wife does the detail work of the edges. Which would you choose?

Here are the opportunities that I will offer at the front end of our time to get us started together:

- I have developed a “Deep Leadership Dive” Survey of all the aspects of church life and ministry that I will engage present and past leadership of Our Savior's to fill out. As Interim Pastor, it will be my job to summarize the findings for you, and share this with the congregation.

Continued on page 3

- At the same time, I will share a very simplified survey with all families and individuals. As Interim Pastor, it will be my job to summarize the findings for you and share this with the congregation.

These two surveys will help us gauge where Our Savior's is at this time, and give us a read on what may need attending to, but more importantly they will give us a read on what the future holds, a read on what you, as the people of God at Our Savior's, are dreaming of. This is grounds up, people, work. God is at work here.

- Give this a few weeks, and then, once Pastor Stephan's work is complete, I will offer 6 Round Table Listening Events to hear your Faith Story of Our Savior's (I call this 'your' "Sacred Story"), and ask you what you hope for in the future at Our Savior's. My ears will be wide open. I will take written notes of your reflections and dreams, and once again share the actual points brought up at these sessions back with the council leadership and the congregation. Transparency, trust, and acceptance are key here. This is growth time for everyone. It will be a true blessing to hear your story. We will give each person room to share.
- I will share brief "Transition" Interim teachings along the way, short snippets to get the brainstorm wheels turning.
- At the same time, I want to encourage you to begin brainstorming names of pastors and to even reach out to potential pastors and deacons who may be a good fit here at Our Savior's. Let's begin this on the front end right away. Visit personally with these pastors and deacons. Visit their worship service. Talk to your friends and family members who live in different places. Seek these pastors and deacons out. You can also visit their church websites nowadays and watch worship live via YouTube or Facebook. You can help this process along. If you have a name of a pastor or deacon, I ask you to please pass this on to the church council members.
- The church council will be working with me to identify and name the Call Committee who will see to the work and activity of interviewing for the future full-time ministry team positions. I envision the Call Committee being named and installed in November. I will work to train them, alongside of the appointed Synod Bishop's staff member. The Call Committee will have some work to do on the front end, before any pastoral/deacon candidates are looked into. This training and preparation work will take some time. By the time the new year rolls around we will be far along the way to getting the ball rolling.
- One decision that will have to be made early on is what kind of ministry team is best for Our Savior's future. We will get a read for this from the surveys and the round table listening sessions. You have had many different staff configurations so it will be important to sort these through, the pros and cons of each, and come to a conclusion as to the best scenario for the future of Our Savior's.

I so look forward to working with you, getting to know you all over again, and engaging the Our Savior's faith story. As the time permits, I am open to one-on-one visits, home visits, or coffees out. My work begins October 1st. For me, it is like "Coming Home" again.

God Bless,
Pastor Randy



Listening Post Round Table Conversations with Interim Pastor Randy

Pastor Randy will host 6 listening post round table meetings. These are open, faith sharing times and idea generating times for all ages; - every voice counts. Anyone is welcome to attend one of the six sessions. We will meet in the conference room and we hope you will attend one of these sessions:

Sunday, 10/19 - 9:45 am
Wednesday, 10/22 - 8:30 am
Wednesday, 10/22 - 7:00 pm
Sunday, 10/26 - 11:45 am
Monday, 10/27 - 1:30 pm
Tuesday, 10/28 - 5:15 pm

Julefest Scandinavian Christmas Festival and Bazaar December 6, 2025 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

LEFSE MAKING TIME!!

We will be making lefse at the church for the Julefest this month and we need YOUR help!! Dates have been set for:

Monday, September 29, Thursday, October 2
Monday, October 6, and Thursday, October 9
(please note, the date changes)
beginning at 8:30 AM

Sessions will be held in the church kitchen. *No experience necessary!* There are many different things to do - so we have a job for everyone! It is always a lot of fun.

We also need people to help fold and wrap the lefse on these same dates at 6:30 pm in the evening. This will also be on the sign-up sheets.

Please sign up on the sheets when they are posted in the Fellowship Hall.
Thanks so much!



The Wednesday Evening meal on Oct 8 will be potluck. The church will furnish the meat, you bring the side dishes and dessert.



Support Fair Trade and the people of Guatemala!

Sharing the Dream in Guatemala is a non-profit organization that promotes fair trade with cooperatives and small businesses in Guatemala. Craft products are handmade by Mayan artisans, and the profits go to support community development projects.

Mark your calendar to browse the sale at the back of the Fellowship Hall on:

Sunday, October 5 (9:30 am – Noon)
Wednesday, October 8 (5:00 pm – 7:00 pm)
Sunday, October 12 (9:30 am – Noon)
Wednesday, October 15 (5:00 pm – 7:00 pm)

Communities of hardworking, faithful families in Guatemala directly benefit from these sales in great and wondrous ways.

Thank you for your heart for mission!

Visit the website www.sharingthedream.org to learn more about the mission and to shop the online store!

Music Ministry

Bell Choir Wednesdays, at 5:00 pm

Senior Choir Wednesdays, 7:00 pm

Interested in joining?

Please talk with Steve Aalbu.

This month's "Love Your Neighbor" Jar benefits Sharing the Dream in Guatemala.

August's Love Your Neighbor Jar raised \$2,766.90 for Lutheran Disaster Response.

SonShine Squad

The SonShine Squad will meet on Monday, October 6 at 9:00 in the Fireside Room. We will be making plans for our visits to the home bound of OSLC. The SonShine Squad shares a little of God's sunshine with the homebound of OSLC. If you or someone you know would enjoy a visit from one of our teams, please call or text Cheryl W at 605-673-1334.



Please remember your Secret Sister in October by mailing a card and keeping her in prayer!

Marthas Gathering Women's Evening Bible Study

"Money, Stewardship and Generosity" by the Rev. Christa von Zychlin



Continuing sessions:

Tuesday, October 21, 6:30 pm

– "Stewardship – How do we tend our treasure?"

Tuesday, November 18, 6:30 pm

– "Generosity – A wideness in God's mercy"

As a resource, we use the **Gather** magazine of the Women of the ELCA. Location – at The Living Room, 810 N. Yale (corner of Jackson and Yale).

RSVP to Sara Miles, 605-642-4955, if you are interested in joining this small group or if you have any questions.

Adult Enrichment: Opportunities for Fall 2025



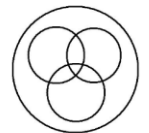
Many small group opportunities exist through OSLC for you to grow in God's Word and deepen your faith:

- Three Women's Circle Bible Studies
--Ruth, Deborah, and Esther
- Men's Fellowship
- Two on Tuesdays Women's Bible Study
- Marthas Gathering Women's Evening Bible Study
- Young Adults Bible Study

Please check the church calendar and website for gathering dates/times/places!

Friendship Ministry

Extending the love of Christ
from Friend to Friend



Friendship Ministers are members of our church who listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people in our congregation and community who are facing a crisis, going through stressful times (both good and challenging), grieving, experiencing loneliness, celebrating transitions, etc.

Contact Nancy Christopherson at 605-645-2723 to request a visit or for more information.

✠ Pastoral Acts ✠

Baptisms

August 30 Aleera Claire Niehaus-Warner, child of Erin Niehaus

September 7 Allen Michael Niemi, child of Carolyn & Tom Niemi

September 21 Brandi Rae Lawson, Jace Tyler Barao, Hannah Leigh Lawson

Weddings

September 13 Marissa Hight & Hunter Terhark

Funerals

September 5 Curtis Hanks, Rapid City, SD

September 13 Laura Manke, Spearfish, SD

September 20 Mason Schlup, Spearfish, SD



Save the Dates!

Looking for a special way for your family or group to share the love of Jesus this Christmas? Provide a gift for a Northern Hills child in need, for a senior citizen who might otherwise not be remembered, for a parent/child at the Artemis house, and/or a gift card donation for children at Pine Ridge.

Our Pine Ridge \$25 gift card donation table will be set up for two Sundays: November 2 and November 9 and two Wednesdays: November 5 and November 12.

Our Angel Tree tags will be available for two Sundays: November 30 and December 7 and two Wednesdays: December 3 and December 10.

Sunday Morning Transportation



Everyone is welcome to use the free Sunday morning transportation service. The service is available for the 8:30 AM worship service. Simply call the church office at 605-642-3715 by 2:00 pm on

Friday afternoon to arrange your ride. If you would like a standing order for rides every Sunday morning, let us know and we will have you on the schedule.

Daylight Saving Time ends...

November
2



Don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour!

Julefest Scandinavian Christmas Festival and Bazaar December 6, 2025 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM



Julefest will be here before you know it and this is an event the entire congregation can participate in and your help is certainly needed to make this yet another successful and fun Julefest!

Crafts! We need lots of craft items! Knit, crochet, quilt, make Christmas decorations or whatever your creativity inspires! New ideas are always good!

Bake! Dig out your favorite recipes! Scandinavian, German, Swedish, or whatever, people love our baked goods. Lots of people let us do their Christmas baking for them, especially cookies and candies. Pastries and pies go great, too. Homemade pickles, jellies and jams are also a big hit!

Remember the Antique Boutique when you are cleaning out your attic, closets or basement.

The **Silent Auction** Committee will be looking for items.

Get your voice in shape and brush up on your Norwegian to sing in the Scandinavian choir.



**Make plans now to get involved!
Proceeds go toward many
worthy causes locally,
nationally, and abroad.**

-Julefest Committee



All Saints' Day

ALL members and friends of Our Savior's are invited to share a photo of a loved one who has passed away to be displayed on the worship screens, November 2, All Saints Sunday.

If you would like a photo of your loved one projected on the worship screens, **let Lisa know by calling 605-642-3715 (if we already have your photo) or by emailing your photo to Lisa at oslc4@rushmore.com**. If you do not have a digital copy, we can scan your photo for you. Please bring your photo to Lisa during office hours, no later than Monday, October 27.

Confirmation

Wed. October 1: Session 3
8: No Confirmation
15: Session 4
22: Session 5
29: Fellowship

October Acolyte Schedule

Sundays, 8:30 AM Worship

Keaton Davis, Ty Ewing

Sundays, 10:45 AM Worship

Asher Olson, Brandon Moser

Parents - I will use the Remind app for all needed communication and updates so please text @blainconf to 81010 (Students can sign up too but since it isn't affiliated with a school you have to be 13 years old or older to join.)

~ Chris Blain



7:10 PM, Wednesday Evenings

The Living Room, 810 N. Yale.

All freshmen through seniors.

On these gathering nights we discuss matters of faith, life and anything on your mind. It is a great hour of fellowship and faith formation. It is a very informal and meaningful evening and bringing a friend or friends is always welcomed.

High School Youth Group will not meet on October 8 due to middle school parent/teacher conferences.

Our High School Youth are encouraged to sign-up for reminders by sending a text to: **text @oslcy to the number 81010**

TreaSurer's Report

As of August 31, 2025

Year-to-date Offerings:	\$410,140.63
Year-to-date Expenses:	\$397,361.79
Year-to-date Budget	\$451,097.50



Baby Care Kits

are due October 15

Esther Circle encourages anyone to check out the Baby Care Kit Display in the fellowship hall and donate a kit or one (or more) articles towards a kit. Please place items or complete kits in the basket near the receptionist desk in the Fellowship Hall.

Each kit should contain:

2 long or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet), 1 hand towel, dark color recommended, 2 receiving blankets, 2 lightweight cotton t-shirts, 4 cloth diapers, 2 pairs of socks, 2 bath-size bars of gentle soap, in original wrapping, 2 diaper pins, 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood or include a baby cap

*Wrap items in one of the receiving blankets and secure with the safety pins. Gently used, clean items can be substituted for new ones. **An entire kit gets kind of expensive, single items really help as well.** Do not enclose kit in plastic bags.*

Spearfish Community

Food pantry needs for October:

Chili or Beef Stew, Canned Peaches or Fruit Cocktail, Spaghetti Noodles, Saltine Crackers, Chunky Soups, Canned Ravioli, Canned Spaghetti, Spaghetti O's.

Money donations are always appreciated.

Donations can be sent to:

Spearfish Community Food Pantry
P. O. Box 65, Spearfish, SD 57783

God's work. Our hands.

Mission Team would like to thank all those who helped with this year's "God's work. Our hands." project. By using a Thrivent Action Team Grant and with donations of cash and hygiene products from the congregation, we were able to assemble 50 hygiene kits for Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center.

We are so blessed to be a part of such a generous and loving congregation. Thank you for all the support you give to help our brothers and sisters outside our church walls.

God bless you all,

OSLC's Mission Team

Thank you to Deborah Circle who hosted the Fall Salad Luncheon on September 4. There were 48 women in attendance, and everyone was moved by hearing some of the stories and experiences shared by Paula Culver from the Black Hills Foster Parent Association. Paula has been a foster parent for many years and can speak to the specific needs and issues of the children/young adults who are placed in foster care. Donations for the BH Foster Parent Association were accepted prior to, and the day of the luncheon and included items such as toys, toiletries, socks/underwear, suitcases, and over \$1,200 in cash.

A brief general meeting for WELCA was held following the luncheon. The positions of Vice President, Treasurer, and Chairperson of the Justice Mission were open for election. All individuals currently in these positions had agreed to continue to serve and were re-elected. The following is a list of all officers for the 2025-2026 year: Lori Laughlin, President; Loretta Greni, Vice President; Cheryl Wormstadt, Secretary; Karol Johnson, Treasurer; Mission Chairpersons of Joan DeWall for Justice; Janet Baker for Stewardship; and Dianna Rommen for Discipleship.

A group of 47 woman from OSLC attended the fall retreat at Outlaw Ranch on Sept 6 and 7. Woman came from all 5 congregations across our conference. The theme was, "Rainbow of Grace Celebrating God's Promises." It was a beautiful fall weekend, and every attendee left with a renewed heart and spirit. Mark your calendars for next year's retreat scheduled for September 11 and 12.

The WELCA Board discussed forming a Julefest Committee. This committee would be comprised of congregation and circle members. If you are interested in joining the committee or would like additional information – please contact Lori Laughlin (605-645-1493).

The first week of Lefse making has been moved to Monday September 29 and Thursday October 2. The second week will be Monday October 6 and Thursday Oct 9. There are plenty of opportunities to join in and have a great time.

Times for lefse making is at 8:30 am and again on 6:30 pm each of these days. No experience necessary!

The WELCA calendar of events will begin to fill as the date of Julefest on Saturday, December 6, approaches! As in many years past – there will be a need for many volunteers to help with a wide variety of jobs associated with this event.

Fall is a busy season with school back in full swing; sports activities and events; getting yards reading for winter. I hope you take the time to enjoy the colors of the fall season and feel the full blessings of a wonderful harvest.

Lori Laughlin, President
605-645-1493

WELCA Calendar

Oct. Kitchen Duty	Ruth Circle
Oct. 1: 9:30 AM	WELCA Board Meeting
November 23	Thankoffering/Quilt Sunday
December 6	Julefest

Circle Meetings

Circle Study Leaders

October 6 @ 10:30 AM

Deborah Circle

October 13, 10:30 AM

Leader: Joan DeWall Hostess: Judy Woodworth

Esther Circle

October 9, 1:00 PM

Leader: Beth Nielson Hostess: Lori Laughlin

Ruth Circle

October 16, 10:00 AM

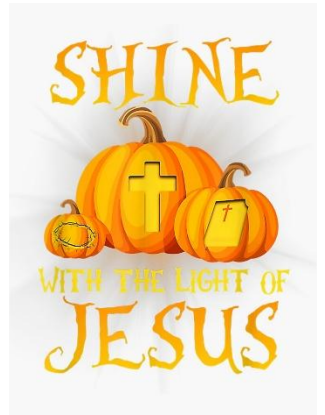
Leader: All Hostess: Barb Gauger



"Thank you for the very special pictures. Thank you for truly blessing me by allowing me to share with all of the beautiful women today. I am blown away by all of the gifts that you provided for the children and then the cash that was collected from the church. I was truly humbled. Thank you again for all you did." *Paula Culver*

Children's Ministries

Wednesday school! Check It Out!!



The details:

- 5:16pm - Supper is Served! Join us for your evening meal. There is no cost, but a donation is welcome! You don't have to come to supper but please let us cook (and clean up!) for you once a week!
- 5:40pm - Kids, Kindergarten through 6th grade go downstairs to their classrooms. Kindergarten - 4th grade kids are in a room all together and we help each other learn! These are not the same lessons we have on Sundays, but a special curriculum designed to have all age groups together.
- 5th & 6th graders are in their own classroom with lessons designed for this age group.
- Unfortunately, we do not offer a preschool class as we don't have a teacher. If you'd be interested in teaching, I'd be happy to have you join our team! We do have a staffed nursery for your littles to enjoy with a caretaker that does a lesson with those little ones.
- 6:20pm - Students are dismissed to join their family for Wednesday Word Worship, a shorter, yet meaningful worship service with Holy Communion. This service is usually done by 7:00pm.

Think of it as **"One Stop Church"** because you get a meal, a lesson and worship, all in a couple of hours. Please consider giving Wednesday School a try! We would LOVE to have your family join us!



I've said it before, and I will say it again: we have **THE BEST VOLUNTEERS!** Most of our Sunday school and Wednesday school volunteers are teachers in "real" life too or have other busy careers! All of them have been volunteering for many years, and they just keep signing up, thank goodness! How do they do it? Each of them has careers, kids in ALL the activities, they have houses and spouses. **They just do it.** They may have been apprehensive to 'raise their hands to begin with, but now they see it as something of value for their kids

and as they find out, it enriches their faith life as well.

Did you know that God, in his goodness, has already equipped you to be an amazing volunteer for Children's Ministries? He has! Just by being you! You may not feel it, but you are ready!

Let your light SHINE here:

****Team teachers**

The lessons are basically a script that you use to tell the story. There are short stories, activities, prayers and leaflets that help the kids, and you, learn the stories together!

- Little Lambs - our very youngest kids at 3years old. Abi Case is our teacher and could use a partner.
- PreK/Kindergarten - we have a teacher, but she needs extra helping-hands with this busy class!
- 3rd/4th Grade - again we have a teacher but are looking for a teammate for this class of inquiring minds!
- Wednesday school All Kids Elementary Team teacher, we have one teacher but could use another.

****Behind the Scenes**

- updating bulletin boards
- organizing the supply rooms
- preparing lesson leaflets for classrooms
- inventory supplies for the Christmas program

Contact Miss Beth if you are interested
Phone: 605-381-8695
Church: 605-642-3715
Email: bethn2005@gmail.com
Church: oslc youth@rushmore.com

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

OUR MISSION: Inspired by God's grace, we open our hearts to all in faith, prayer, fellowship, and service through Jesus Christ.

1. Call to Order: Andy Binder called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. Members present: Andy Binder, Sherry Kloeckl, Reed Haug, Lana Main, Laura Bosworth, David Pummel, Karson Klein, Deming Haugland, Pastor Stephan Sandness. On TEAMS video call were: Brady Harr, Mike Steffen.
2. What's on top: Members reflected on their last weeks of summer vacation with bike rides, camping trips, leading into school schedules, family transitions, kids growing up and parents growing pains!
3. Devotions: Sherry Kloeckl shared a devotion titled, "Knowing the Will of God" which centered on Ephesians 5:17. How we should give thanks each day, find joy and live with purpose and wisdom not knowing what tomorrow brings.
4. Action Item: Approval of Agenda. Motion made to amend agenda to include Associate to the Bishop, Rev. Renee Splichal Larson, invited guest, be added to the end of the agenda. Motion made to amend agenda by Deming Haugland. Second Lana Main. Motion carried.
5. Action Item: August Council Minutes: Approval of August council minutes. David Pummel motioned to approve. Seconded by Reed Haug. Motion carried.
6. Action Item: August Treasurer's Report: David Pummel presented the financial report noting we are in very good shape. August income was \$55,763.61 with expenses of \$43,875.57. YTD income \$410,284.94 with expenses of \$397,361.79 with a surplus of \$12,923.15. It was also noted that the Special Funds line-item Spearfish Ministerial Assn balance of \$3,246.26 was transferred to the Methodist church. A credit card has been secured for subscriptions and miscellaneous purchases that will be needed in the future. Budget report will be started with finance committee meeting 10/8/25. Committee reports requests will be needed prior to the date. Council will be presented with draft at 10/14 meeting.
7. Ministerial Staff Report: Pastor Stephan began by saying this would be his last council meeting with bittersweet emotions. He reflected on some 400 council meetings that these were some of his favorite times working with his congregations. He reviewed his packed September calendar from two funerals, one wedding, confirmation, first communion, presentation of preschool and third grade bibles which he plans to embrace. Before turning the calendar to October when our Interim Pastor Randy Fett will join him in the office for a few overlapping days prior to his retirement on October 12. Pastor Randy will be preaching October 5.
8. Committee Reports: Education council events are reflected above. They do have a new member, Jan Holz that was announced at their last meeting. Mission team: Hygiene kits were assembled 9/7/25 between services, "God's work. Our hands." service project, for Pine Ridge. Plans have begun to host the Angel Tree again this year. They will be serving the first Wednesday supper on 9/17/25. Properties: Reported that the paving project should be completed this week and is looking good! Also reminders will be communicated that there are plenty of old living room/fellowship hall chairs in the sheds for those that want to take as many as they like!! Fix it crew has completed twenty-five baptismal boxes. What a blessing this group of men is to our congregation. Senior Ministry: Planning for senior outing on 9/26/25 to Rapid City area to see the Chapel in the Hills, have lunch then tour the Air and Space Museum.
9. Invited Guest, Rev. Renee Splichal Larson, Associate to the Bishop, SD Synod ELCA, joined us via ZOOM. She introduced us to the process of transition of a congregation in which we will soon begin. She assured us we have many resources, support of the Synod, our Interim, and above all God who we need to remember is always steering the ship.
10. Meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:20 followed by the Lords' Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Kloeckl, secretary



Fall 2025

On Sunday, September 14, three Our Savior's volunteers embraced a warm overcast day in support of "God's work. Our hands." and spent about an hour cleaning up our environment. The Department of Transportation Adopt-A-Highway program, of which OSLC participates, allows volunteers the opportunity to pick up trash along state highways. Two events are organized each year by OSLC; our fall location is eastbound I-90 from mile marker 8 to Exit 8 (McGuigan Road).

This year, after scoping out our section of clean-up, the one mile of clean-up seemed to be cleared of a majority of trash and the grass was recently mowed. On occasion the DOT walks the ditches before mowers arrive. Therefore organizers George and Julia did not solicit additional volunteers. We were surprised and quite frankly glad that Lyle Johnson joined us for an afternoon of treasure hunting for trash.

As always, volunteers are outfitted with yellow vests, orange trash bags, handy pick up tools and water. These hard workers removed five bags of trash.

If you are interested in some outside exercise this Spring after our mild winter, watch for our next event in Spring 2026.



FAITH & CARE

Serving in Worship and Fellowship

Every household is encouraged to sign up to serve in various ways on Sunday mornings at **any time throughout the year!**



Servers are needed as:

- Welcome center hosts
- Ushers
- Communion assistants
- Snack providers
- Coffee Server

This QR Code link to SignUp Genius will allow you to sign up at your convenience.

Job Descriptions are posted by the Church Kitchen for your information. Questions or need help signing up? Contact Sommerlyn Clausen at 605-381-5422



Thank you Our Savior's Lutheran Church for supporting this ministry since 2009.

Good Shepherd Clinic has free medical and emergency dental clinics in Spearfish and Lead, for northern Black Hills adults, ages 19-64, who meet our income guidelines. Good Shepherd Clinic-Spearfish is open on Monday nights at Our Savior's Lutheran Church and provides medical and emergency dental services. Good Shepherd Clinic-Lead is open on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church for medical services.

Our services are provided by medical, dental, and community team members. Community team members welcome and register patients, guide patients through the flow of the clinic, conduct eligibility and nursing visits, record medical and dental data, and offer prayer if requested.

If you would like to learn more or share in this ministry, contact Chris Davis at 218-340-5610 or director@goodshepherdclinicspearfish.com. Volunteer applications are available at www.goodshepherdclinicspearfish.com.



Don't forget... OSLC is on Facebook!

There are times when we need to get out information quicker than the weekly bulletins or the monthly newsletter will allow. If we have a sudden cancellation of an event or building closure (think snow day), we will post it on our Facebook page, as well as on our website.

To get the very latest information "like" our facebook page.

www.facebook.com/oslcspearfish

Not on facebook...?



Sign up for
text alerts.

Opt in to OSLC instant text messaging!

As a reminder, OSLC has an instant text messaging system. It allows us to communicate time-sensitive information, such as event updates, emergency closures, schedule changes, etc. If you've signed up in the past, you don't have to do anything. If you haven't signed up, **or if your email or phone number has changed**, please contact the church office at 605-642-3715 or oslc@rushmore.com with up-to-date email addresses and phone numbers.

Thanks for helping us all stay connected!



Blessings and thank you for the wonderful support given to the Black Hills Foster Parent Association at our Fall Salad Luncheon. Hundreds of donated supplies, \$1010 in donations and \$200 from WELCA. So thankful to all Circle members who attended plus so many "first timers".

~ Deborah Circle

Scriptures

- Oct. 5 Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4
Psalm 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10
- Oct. 12 2 Kings 5:13, 7-15c
Psalm 111
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19
- Oct. 19 Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 121
2 Timothy 3:14—4:5
Luke 18:1-8
- Oct. 26 Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22
or Sirach 25:12-17
Psalm 84:1-7
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14
- Or Reformation Sunday:*
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 46
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36

Office Notes:

The deadline for submission of items for the November newsletter is **Thursday, October 23**. Please send your newsletter items to Lisa at oslc4@rushmore.com

Ways to give electronically:

Scan this
code to
give online



Scan the code or go to our website, click on the Online Giving button:

Clicking on that button will take you to a secure page on which you can donate to the vital ministries of Our Savior's Lutheran Church directly from a checking or savings account, or using a credit or debit card.

Check out our website for the monthly newsletter, calendar and much more... www.oslcspearfish.com.



Has your address or phone number changed? Please let us know at 605 642-3715 or e-mail Julie at oslc@rushmore.com

Prefer not to receive a paper copy of our newsletter? Let us send you an email with a link to our newsletter when it's posted to our website. If you are interested, please send your email address to Julie at oslc@rushmore.com or call us at 605-642-3715. Thank you!



October 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30 AM WELCA Board Mtg 5:00 PM Bell Choir 5:15 PM Confirmation 5:16 PM Wednesday Supper 5:40 PM Wednesday School 6:26 PM Wednesday Word 7:00 PM Senior Choir 7:10 PM HS Youth @ TLR	2 8:30 AM Lefse Making 12:30 PM Quilters	3 6:00 AM Christian Business Men's Group at TLR <i>Pastor Randy's Day Off</i>	4
5 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Education Hour 10:45 AM Joyful Journey-led Worship Service <i>Sharing the Dream Craft Sale</i>	6 8:30 AM Lefse Making 9:00 AM SonShine Squad 10:30 AM Circle Study Leaders 1:00 PM Yarn Ministry 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Clinic <i>Pastor Stephan's Day Off</i>	7 8:30 AM Fix-It Group 9:00 AM Quilting 5:30 PM Education Comm 6:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study	8 5:00 PM Bell Choir 5:16 PM Wednesday Supper Potluck 6:26 PM Wednesday Word 7:00 PM Senior Choir 7:05 PM Finance Budget Mtg. NO Confirmation NO Wednesday School NO HS Youth <i>Sharing the Dream Craft Sale</i>	9 8:30 AM Lefse Making 12:30 PM Quilters 1:00 PM Esther Circle	10 6:00 AM Christian Business Men's Group at TLR <i>Pastor Randy's Day Off</i>	11 8:00 AM Men's Fellowship
12 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Education Hour 10:45 AM Joyful Journey-led Worship Service **Pastor Stephan's last day in worship** <i>Sharing the Dream Craft Sale</i>	13 10:30 AM Deborah Circle 1:00 PM Yarn Ministry <i>Good Shepherd Clinic~Closed</i> <i>Native American Day</i>	14 8:30 AM Fix-It Group 9:00 AM Quilting 2:00 PM Two on Tuesday Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Mission Comm. 6:00 PM Finance Comm. 6:30 PM Church Council 6:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study	15 10:00 AM Spearfish Canyon Healthcare Worship Service 5:00 PM Bell Choir 5:15 PM Confirmation 5:16 PM Wednesday Supper 5:40 PM Wednesday School 6:26 PM Wednesday Word 7:00 PM Senior Choir 7:10 PM HS Youth @ TLR <i>Sharing the Dream Craft Sale</i>	16 10:00 AM Ruth Circle 12:30 PM Quilters	17 6:00 AM Christian Business Men's Group at TLR <i>Pastor Randy's Day Off</i>	18 
19 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Education Hour 9:45 AM "Listening Post" Round Table w/Pastor Randy 10:45 AM Joyful Journey-led Worship Service	20 10:30 AM Senior Ministry Committee 1:00 PM Yarn Ministry 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Clinic	21 8:30 AM Fix-It Group 9:00 AM Quilting 6:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study 6:30 PM Marthas Gathering Women's Evening Bible Study @ TLR	22 8:30 AM "Listening Post" Round Table w/Pastor Randy 10:45 AM Edgewood Vista Worship Service 5:00 PM Bell Choir 5:15 PM Confirmation 5:16 PM Wednesday Supper 5:40 PM Wednesday School 6:26 PM Wednesday Word 7:00 PM "Listening Post" Round Table w/Pastor Randy 7:00 PM Senior Choir 7:10 PM HS Youth @ TLR	23 12:30 PM Quilters 1:00 PM Cradle Roll <i>Newsletter Items Due</i>	24 6:00 AM Christian Business Men's Group at TLR 7:00 AM GSC Board Mtg. <i>Pastor Randy's Day Off</i>	25 8:00 AM Men's Fellowship
26 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Education Hour 10:45 AM Joyful Journey-led Worship Service 11:45 AM Listening Post" Round Table w/Pastor Randy <i>Reformation Sunday</i>	27 1:00 PM Yarn Ministry 1:30 PM Listening Post" Round Table w/Pastor Randy 6:00 PM Good Shepherd Clinic	28 8:30 AM Fix-It Group 9:00 AM Quilting 2:00 PM Two on Tuesday Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Listening Post" Round Table w/Pastor Randy 6:30 PM Friendship Ministry 6:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study	29 5:00 PM Bell Choir 5:15 PM Confirmation Fellowship 5:16 PM Wednesday Supper 5:40 PM Wednesday School 6:26 PM Wednesday Word 7:00 PM Senior Choir 7:10 PM HS Youth @ TLR	30 12:30 PM Quilters	31 6:00 AM Christian Business Men's Group at TLR <i>Pastor Randy's Day Off</i>	

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

1020 State Street
Spearfish, SD 57783

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

1020 State Street
Spearfish, SD 57783

Staff: Stephan Sandness, Senior Pastor
Randall Fett, Interim Senior Pastor
Beth Nielsen, Director of Children's Ministries
Julie Lee, Office Manager
Lisa Williams, Receptionist

Worship: Sundays 8:30 am Traditional Worship Service
10:45 am Joyful Journey-led Worship Service
Live stream at 8:30 am or watch later! Connect through our web site.
Wednesday 5:16 pm Wednesday Supper
6:26 pm Wednesday Word

Church office located at 1020 State Street
Church Phone Number: 605-642-3715
Kitchen/Quilting Phone Number: 605-722-0660

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday

WEB site: www.oslcspearfish.com

E-mail: oslc@rushmore.com



Mission Statement: Inspired by God's grace, we open our hearts to all in faith,
prayer, fellowship and service through Jesus Christ.