



Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Serving God's Community through
Worship, Outreach and Fellowship

October 2025

Sunday School for adults 8:45-9:45am
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Church Office: 540-382-2223 / OSLCoffice@oslc-cburg.org

Weekly office hours: Tuesday - Thursday 10am-3pm or by appointment

Church Website: www.oslc-cburg.org

OSLC Fall Festival

Date: October 11

Time: 10am-2pm

Leaves are beginning to change and there's a gentle crispness in the air! That means it is time for our Fall Festival to return this October. There are many ways to volunteer through items given or time given to the efforts that day. We will have a hayride, face painting, a bounce house, live music, free bowls of chili and cider for the community, baked goods for sale, and s'mores! If you are interested in donating items to the cause or volunteering to the needs that day, please sign up using the Sign-Up Genius Link and or talk with Angela, Kay, or Pastor Joel and they will get you signed up to help.

Sign-Up Genius Link For Volunteering and Items Needed:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44ADAB2EAAFFC34-58020181-2025>

Event by Our Saviour Lutheran Church - Christiansburg, VA and Nineveh: Lutheran Justice Ministry

Finance

On August 28 Kris Waite sent an email to 11 members identified as the team leaders for the following teams within the current organizational structure of our shared ministry:

Worship & Music

AV Team

Christian Education (Faith Formation)

Youth

Social Ministry

Food Ministry

Finance

Community Life

Fellowship

Congregation Care

Property

The purpose of Kris' email was to announce that we would soon begin to work on the Ministry Spending Plan for 2026 and to request input from the team leaders for financial needs of their respective areas for inclusion into the Ministry Spending Plan. This notice is first, a reminder to the team leaders to meet with team members as appropriate and submit budgetary requests to Kris at oslcoffice@oslc-cburg.org by October 1. Secondly, for the rest of you, whether you are actively part of a team or not, if you see a ministry or church matter in need of new or additional funding, please reach out to the appropriate team leader. If you do not know who that is, ask Kris, Pastor Joel, or any member of Council. Allan Bookout, Finance Team Leader

Lord's Acre Sale/OSLC Crafters

The Lord's Acre Sale will be held at OSLC again this year. It is on Saturday, October 4. Doors will be open from 8am - 1pm with Pastor Joel doing a devotional 9 - 9:15am. OSLC will support the hot dog sales from the kitchen under the supervision of Carol Cox (THANKS, Carol!). Supplies will be donated by the participating churches to sell hot dogs, chips and drinks to benefit the Lord's Acre Sale organization. Anyone willing to help in the kitchen, please contact Cindy Whitehead, Joanne Jackson or Carol Cox. We have fun! Come out and join us!

The OSLC Crafters will have a booth set up for the sale. Please come and support the Crafters, the Lord's Acre Sale and visit with the other churches participating (Mt. Tabor United Methodist, Park United Methodist and Auburn United Methodist). At least 10% of all sales are given to local worthy causes by each church. All proceeds from the OSLC Crafters go to local worthy causes.

The Blessing of the Animals will be held 11am - 12 noon that day as well. Come out, have your furry or feathery friends blessed and visit the sale for crafts, delicious breakfast biscuits, fried fruit pies, decorations and many other items.

Currents Young Adult Ministry:

October 30 – 6:00pm Dinner & Fellowship – Location: TBD. Contact Pastor Joel if you are interested in joining the group chat and to learn where the group decides to meet in the coming month.

Eklesia Youth Fellowship:

October 12 – Planning Meeting After Worship

October 23 – Eklesia Meeting at Church – 6:30-8:30pm

Stewardship Sunday Celebration Meal October 12

Save the date for Stewardship Sunday, October 12. Please plan to stay after worship, eat lunch together provided by the Stewardship Team, and celebrate the time, talents, and treasures that each of us brings to Our Saviour Lutheran Church!

Book Club

Oct 22 – 1:30pm

The group will be discussing *North of Normal*, by Cea Sunrise Person

Celebrating 15 Seasons of To Our House

Thursday, October 2, 4-6 pm

The presence of your company is requested at a celebration recognizing our volunteers and supporters who provide selfless dedication and invaluable resources to the To Our House program.

The event will be held at: THE HUB, located in the New River Community Action Offices

206 3rd Avenue, Radford, VA

Hors D'oeuvres will be served

To Our House at OSLC in 2025

Season 15 of To Our House, a program that provides winter shelter for homeless adults in the New River Valley, runs from November 1, 2025, through March 21, 2026. OSLC will house the guests for the first 4 weeks of the season, from November 1 through November 29.

Holy Spirit Catholic Church will host the first week again, (November 1 through 7), and will provide the meals and volunteers.

OSLC will be the host church for the next two weeks, (November 8 - 21), during which we will provide the meals and volunteers. (St. Thomas Episcopal Church will likely help again with some of the meals.)

Another church or civic organizations will serve as hosts for the last week, (November 22 - 28), and provide the meals and volunteers.

We need volunteers!

As the host church from November 8 through the 21, we will provide evening meals, pack lunches and provide one overnight volunteer for each night.

Other volunteers needed:

Laundry (sheets and towels).

Setting up the fellowship hall space, (either Friday, October 31, or Saturday, November 1).

Church cleanup:

(vacuum/shampoo carpet in fellowship hall, deep clean kitchen, and narthex bathrooms).

Church cleanup will be Saturday, November 29.

Many of you have volunteered in various ways in the past. We'd love to have new volunteers, too. Look for more information and ways to volunteer by mid-October. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me at janjojerem@gmail.com, or in person at church.

Red Cross Blood Drive at OSLC

Thursday, October 23, from 1-6 pm

We had a successful blood drive at OSLC on August 27th, with 24 units collected. There were several church members that donated blood. Thank you everyone who donated or volunteered at the check-in table!

Through the generosity of volunteer blood donors, the American Red Cross helps millions of patients in over 2,600 hospitals across the country each year. In just an hour's time, you can help save up to three lives with a blood donation.

You can sign up for the October blood drive at: <https://www.redcrossblood.org>

Encourage friends and neighbors to join us to give this gift of life!

Property Updates, John Hess

Council approved a contract (\$900) with Highland Tree Care, Blacksburg, VA, to remove damaged limbs in the large cherry tree damaged in last winter's ice storms. The crown of the tree will be raised 6-8 ft so that mowing around the tree is again possible, and it may be a place for contemplation, when we move one of our benches beneath the tree.

Council approved a contract (\$795) with CENVAR Roofing and Solar, Roanoke, VA. to replace missing shingles on the church roof. This proactive repair is to prevent leaks or further damage to the roof that needs to be replaced within the next several years. Council also decided that replacement of the roof on the church building should occur prior to repaving of the parking lot, Capital improvement funds are currently accumulating as approved in the 2025 Mission Spending Plan with the goal of \$75,000 after five years.

Learning To Live 2gether, John Hess

LT2 will meet on October 1 from 1:30-3:30 pm. We will discuss various viewpoints on religious nationalism.

PMO October Updates, Lorin Crowder

★ Our Goal: To provide a safe and nurturing setting where Social Skills Support is provided to preschool age children through the teachings of Jesus. Instruction will include bible stories, songs, and prayer. This aligns with our mission at OSLC - to serve God's community through worship, outreach, and fellowship.

★ Teachers - Lorin Crowder, Nikki Gibson, Brittany Smith.

Substitutes - Betsy Alden, Lauren Black, Amy Greer-Knowles, Abigail Adams, Jeanette Wiggert

★ Enrollment for September - 10 students

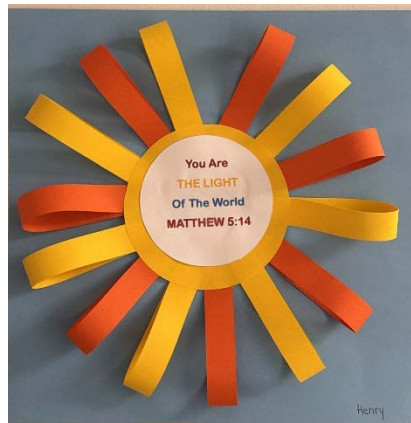
★ The 3-year-olds have made a smooth transition to the preschool class. They have a short language arts lesson, a craft, and we will soon add in math activities. It is wonderful to see them learn and grow.

★ Leaves Themes for Preschool

- Sept. 30 - Leaves
- Oct. 7 - Pumpkins
- Oct. 14 - Harvest/scarecrows
- Oct. 21 - Bats
- Oct. 28 - Spiders

OCTOBER 26 is REFORMATION SUNDAY!!

Thank-yous to the Community



Thank you

★ Thank you: to Joanne Jackson for providing lovely crafts once per month for PMO. Thanks to folks for the many donations. It is greatly appreciated.

From Mary Osgood:

A Thank You: Thank you for the prayers and generous support from my OSLC family during my recent surgery and continued recovery.

From the Property team:

We give thanks to Jeff Crowder and John Wiggert for repairing flooring at the front portion of the storage shed. This work eliminated damage caused by groundhogs prior to the installation of the concrete slab last year.

Shared document of thanks from OSLC Congregation Council:

July 2025

Dear Pastor Joel,

We want to express our sincere appreciation for your leadership and ministry at Our Saviour Lutheran Church. It has been a year filled with thoughtful engagement, creative approaches to worship and outreach, and a steady commitment to building relationships both within and beyond our congregation.

Your "build it and they will come" mindset and desire to foster community is inspiring. From initiatives such as GIG and age-related groups (young adults and elementary age) to baseball games and Iron Tree gatherings,

you are facilitating ways for us to be in fellowship with one another. This has breathed new life into our community's engagement. These moments remind us that stepping outside traditional patterns can lead to meaningful and memorable experiences. Please continue to pursue these creative directions.

We're also particularly encouraged by your efforts to foster ecumenical connections. From the Thanksgiving and Longest Night services to upcoming plans for a fall event with Lifeline Church and Cambria Baptist, your work in building relationships across denominations is not only admirable but deeply needed in today's church landscape. Your leadership in this area is helping OSLC serve as a bridge and beacon in the community.

We respect and appreciate your intentional approach to change—choosing to learn and observe before making significant shifts. It reflects both humility and wisdom. We recognize that change can be subtle and gradual, and we encourage you to feel comfortable taking small steps forward in areas where your vision aligns with the church's evolving identity.

We're also grateful for your desire to make better use of our building and grounds, inviting our wider community to utilize this space aligns with our mission and values. Your ability to view our facility from a visitor's perspective and draw our attention to spaces that need some attention and TLC continues to challenge us to be more welcoming and aware.

As a congregation, we know we are still in the process of discerning who we are and where we are called to go. Your presence is instrumental in that journey. We look forward to your continued guidance as we clarify our collective identity and set priorities for the future.

We have witnessed your gift of meeting people where they are and honoring their humanity. It encapsulates the grace-filled way you approach ministry. That same grace is evident in your teaching. Your Bible studies, particularly the Revelation series, have been exceptionally well received. We are thrilled to see non-members participating, and we appreciate how you make even the most complex texts accessible and meaningful.

Through it all, your spirit of forgiveness and grace shines clearly. It is a defining quality of your leadership and a gift to all who walk through our doors.

You give so much to OSLC—your energy, time, and heart—and we recognize the importance of rest and renewal. Please know we support your well-being and want you to feel fully empowered to recharge as necessary.

In closing, we are incredibly grateful to have you serving as our pastor. Your faith, creativity, compassion, humor, and dedication are gifts to our community. We look forward to the year ahead with joy and anticipation for what God will continue to do in and through your leadership.

With appreciation and respect,

Mary Osgood, Coreen Bookout and Amy McPherson
OSLC Mutual Ministry