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# CONNECTION

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Our Savior Lutheran Church

Mesquite, TX

February 2026

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## OUR SAVIOR BUILDS MEGACHURCH EMPIRE

Under the Christian nationalist mandate "Might Makes Right", and following Jesus' teachings of Lutheran superiority, Our Savior Lutheran Church is looking for smaller, weaker churches to invade and infiltrate. We would kidnap their pastors and install a puppet pastor. (Pastor Schelter might also be proclaimed as Interim Supreme Leader.)

Since Our Savior Lutheran Church is widely recognized as the 'hottest church going', struggling congregations should welcome our domination and eagerly accept inclusion into our sphere of influence.

Once in charge, we could easily plunder their resources starting with candle oil, communion wine, and Christmas decorations, then expanding to fellowship/potluck supplies and, of course, bank accounts. (Imagine the haul of red solo cups, seasonal napkins, and the abundance of paper dinner plates for our cupboard!)

The whole enterprise should go without casualty—unless certain adversarial megachurches think they are bigger and wealthier than Our Savior and try their own takeover. To thwart such stealth we will begin diplomatic negotiations with First Baptist Dallas (allowing them the downtown churches), Prestonwood Baptist (they can have the impoverished northern suburbs), and Highland Park Methodist (let them have the Highland Park ghetto while we control the resource-rich eastern rim of the metroplex). If they stay put in their assigned region, there should be optimal compliance to our demands. (Consider the harmony of once-competing churches working together in a new order—the Board of Ecclesiastical Peace. It is not a stretch to imagine the Nobel Peace Prize folks knocking on our door any day now!)

But, should any church falsely claim they are richer, more powerful, or larger than Our Savior Lutheran Church, let them be warned now! We have—locked and loaded—the power of excommunication and we're not afraid to use it.

Of course, our megachurch monopoly must have a catchy slogan.

Make Our Savior Great Again (or "MOSGA") could create a must-have merchandizing craze. MOSGA caps, t-shirts, and monogrammed underclothing are already planned. And, coming soon, the Official Our Savior Bible with an authentic photo of Martin Luther and Pastor Schelter, standing together with hammer and nails, posting the 95 theses. (Yes, I am that old ... but don't underestimate my astute intellect. I aced the 5-point Lutheran cognitive test, correctly identifying Martin Luther, Martin Luther King, Marty the Church Canine, Potluck Dinners, and Jalapeno Brownies.)

On an even grander scale, we are planning an Arc de Triomphe at the church entrance and a gold-leaf, crystal-chandeliered, gilded ballroom. Construction should begin soon after the demolition of Pastor Schelter's East Wing Office. (Not to worry. There was nothing of value there anyway.) The centrum restrooms will also be refurbished in black and white Statuary marble offering a grand view of the gymnasium and the Curry Leaf rear entrance. Even the Vatican view will not rival the view of the vast sprawling empire that is...

Our Savior Lutheran Church.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024: 11:30AM



## Congregation Meeting



Teamwork tells the tale for a New Year as we pool our talents for our Annual Congregation Meeting immediately after 10am worship. We'll elect new council members and approve the 2026 budget. *(No potluck. We'll save our energy for Mardi Gras.)*

## Soup-er Sunday

February 8 is Super Bowl Sunday. For most folks, that means football; for Our Savior that means a special offering for World Hunger. We'll roll out an enormous soup bowl to remember those for whom life is more than a game... those for whom a bowl of soup might mean making it through another day. Plan prayerfully to turn February 8 into a "Soup-er Sunday." (It might be a good Sunday to bring canned goods for our food box and *don't forget to bring your change for our noisy offering.*)



## 2025 Contribution Statements

Statements are available for pick-up upon request.



## "Marty" Gras Celebration

**February 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30pm**

*This year's "Marty" Gras will have a distinctive Lutheran flair with a special appearance from good ole' Marty Luther! Join us for a champagne brunch with the best pancakes, sausage, bacon, and sparkling grape juice served up for you and the whole family.*

*Who will be the next Mardi Gras*

*King and Queen?*

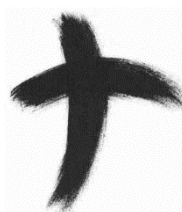
*Who will win the limbo?*

*Who will wear the most beads in the parade?*

*Come find out!!*

***The Jubilation of Mardi Gras celebration on February 15<sup>th</sup> quickly gives way to the most somber day of the church year on February 18<sup>th</sup> —***

## ASH WEDNESDAY



It is the only time which black is the liturgical color.

It is a confrontation with our sin and mortality.

It is a confirmation of new life in Christ.

**SHARE WITH US THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND HOLY COMMUNION ON FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 7:00AM & 7:00PM.**

(There is no meal on Ash Wednesday)

## Make Mardi Gras Magical

*Sign up in the centrum to help decorate, cook, or clean up for this year's Mardi Gras bash, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am. If you're a shopper, there's even a slot to get Mardi Gras groceries. Anybody want to help search for crawdads this year? Call the office at 972-226-0510*



# The Giving Tree becomes The Gratitude Tree

Thank you to all who graciously donated gifts of socks, mittens, underwear, pajamas, and toys to the kids of Bucker Children's Home. This holiday season, the people of Our Savior really came through and Debbie of Mother's Day Out was able to deliver Christmas cargo like never before. Thank you!



Join us Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, to celebrate February birthdays with cake and ice cream,

## Keeping Our Savior Clean

*Our Savior is clean inside and out thanks to two special gifts: Wayne & Elaine North bought a greatly needed vacuum cleaner for the indoors while Steven Belz cleaned up both the leaves and the luminaires outdoors. They've made us sparkle entering the new year.*

## TABLE TALK CONTINUES MONDAYS IN FEBRUARY AT 6:30PM

Our agenda is always about justice, compassion, and truth. Come add your voice to ours because we need to support one another during these difficult days.

Bring a friend!



# February 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Each Sunday 10:00am Service 4:30pm Service	2 6:30pm Table Talk 7:00pm Boy Scouts	3 9:30am Mother's Dy Out	4 10:30am Sages for All Ages	5 9:30am Mother's Dy Out 7:00pm Boy Scouts	6	7
8 "Soup-er" Bowl Sunday Offering 11:30am Annual Congregation Meeting	9 6:30pm Table Talk 7:00pm Boy Scouts	10 9:30am Mother's Dy Out 10:30am Communion at The Waterford	11 10:30am Sages for All Ages	12 9:30am Mother's Dy Out 7:00pm Boy Scouts	13	14
15 Transfiguration February Birthdays Celebration 11:30pm Mardi Gras Brunch Bash	16 6:30pm Table Talk 7:00pm Boy Scouts	17 9:30am Mother's Dy Out	18 7:00am Ash Wednesday Service 10:30am Sages for All Ages 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	19 9:30am Mother's Dy Out 7:00pm Boy Scouts	20 Gym Reserved	21 Gym Reserved
22 First Sunday in Lent	23 6:30pm Table Talk 7:00pm Boy Scouts	24 9:30am Mother's Dy Out	25 10:30am Sages for All Ages 6:00pm Midweek Lenten Supper— Stone Soup 7:00pm Midweek Lenten Service "Bed Rock"	26 9:30am Mother's Dy Out 7:00pm Boy Scouts	27	28



## Birthday

2 Valente Chavez  
 4 Eugene Oehler  
 7 Lauren Larson  
 Susan Starr  
 8 Robert Holmes  
 Mike Williams  
 10 Caroline Finamore  
 Timothy Murphy  
 13 Stephen Moore  
 15 Nancy Wilson  
 17 David Brashear  
 Alexander Nivens

20 Gordon Johnston  
 22 Jerry Combs  
 24 Jordan Starr



## Baptisms

4 Jenny Pickett  
 8 Jaeden Freeman  
 Cody Hardi  
 22 Rachel Shafer  
 23 Jarret Combs  
 24 Stacy White  
 25 Jaylen Freeman  
 27 Greg Barabas  
 28 Dorothy Hutchinson  
 28 Anna Pickett  
 29 Ashlee Morton



## Wedding Anniversaries

4 John & Lois Schelter 42  
 10 Randy & Pam Peterson 13  
 12 Eric & Angelita Fretheim 39  
 19 Thomas & Denise Lindsey 3  
 23 Barry & Pat McDonald 63

### Worship Leaders for February:

Worship Assistant: Chip Cannon Reader: Wendie Meza Ushers: Earl Herndon & Debbie Lonon  
 Greeter: Henry & Baerbel Williams Altar Guild: Amy Ismail

## ***A Lent that Really Rocks!***

Lent will be rockin' this year as we walk the stony journey with Christ to the cross. No Rock 'n roll gig yet can compare to what's in store for you, beginning February 25<sup>th</sup>. The rocks of the Bible will share their stories and lead us into an adventure of trust and triumph all the way to the most famous stone of all—the grave stone of Easter morning that opened the entrance to eternal life. Each Wednesday evening service will feature a rock which played a crucial role in the story of faith. The rocks that played a part of the Old Testament stories will become part of our stories as well. Those rocks will form a path that leads all the way to the cross.

Lenten Suppers and Services are planned so you can follow these stepping stones to a season of renewal fellowship and faith. (Sign up in the centrum if you'd like to help.)

February 18, 7am & 7pm Ash Wednesday—Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion  
 (There is no meal on Ash Wednesday due to Mardi Gras February 15)



### Suppers

**February 25** 6pm Stone Soup (anything goes)  
**March 4** 6pm Sandwiches (could use stone ground bread)  
**March 11** 6pm Baked Potato/Potato dishes (because some potatoes look like stones)  
**March 18** 6pm Stone Cold Salads (any salad that doesn't need to be heated up)  
**March 25** 6pm Mexican Fiesta (stone ground tortillas, of course!)

### Services

7pm "Bed Rock"  
 7pm "Water Rock"  
 7pm "Smooth Rock"  
 7pm "Prayer Rock"  
 7pm "Shiny Rock"

(Bring a rock with special meaning to you that you would like to share at the March 11 Lent Service.)

You've heard of the Rolling Stones. We've got the Stone that was rolled away from the tomb. You've heard of Pet Rocks. We've got Talking Rocks. You'll have to join us each Wednesday Rockin' Evening to experience the journey. (We may even serve Rocky Road Ice Cream!)