LIFELINES



Corner of Sunshine



Help Us Plan for 2027!

As we prepare our 2027 church budget, we need your pledges! Your financial commitment allows us to plan responsibly, sustain our ministries, and continue serving our congregation and community. Every pledge, large or small, makes a difference!

But stewardship is about more than financial giving. It's also about showing up, pitching in, and sharing the gifts God has given you.

We are blessed with a small but mighty staff, but a thriving church takes all of us! Whether it's singing, serving, teaching, volunteering, or trying something new, there is a place for YOU!

Please return your 2027 pledge as soon as possible so we can create a thoughtful, realistic budget for the year ahead.

Together, let's invest our time, talents, and treasures in the future of our church!



PASTOR'S THOUGHTS



We are the most entertained people, ever. I'd argue that statement is not an opinion, as it is a fact.

Since the 1950's, the average American household budget dedicated to food remained steady for eating at home, but increased by 66% for dining out. More often, someone else is cooking for us.

In the dawn of television, you had only 3 channels to choose from, and only if you could get reception. Later there was cable with more channels, then satellite with 100s of channels, and now traditional television has largely been replaced by the endless options of content through a seemingly infinite number of data streaming services.

If you wanted to listen to music, you were tethered to your record player, a live concert, or the radio limited only to the local stations. Then came the 8-track, the cassette, compact discs, and digital; the boombox, the Sony Walkman, the Discman, the iPod, and the smartphone. Today, most music is consumed via apps such as Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon Music, and YouTube Music.

I could go on, but I think you get the point.

Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them."

Throughout the past month, you've been invited to "Say yes" to your ministry. Not passive entertainment of what God is doing in this congregation, but active participation in it. Not just eating, but serving others. Not just hearing, but singing in the choir. Not just listening, but speaking in teams and committees. Not just seeing the table, but setting the table.

Entertainment is temporary, finite, and riddled with one-hit wonders. Christ's ministry is richer and deeper than mere entertainment; it's infinite, vast, measureless, boundless, and countless. It's been ushered through the generations who make up the communion of saints, and it's been blessed into your hands not only for its keeping but also for its flourishing.

Bring your commitment cards to worship on Sunday, November 1st, as we re-member with Our Savior's Lutheran Church's mission and ministry.

PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS



I have been working on cleaning my office today because it's an absolute disaster. I have papers upon papers upon papers. Addison was my helper and she was fantastic at helping me organize and get rid of what we no longer needed. She also coached me on how I can stay more organized moving forward 😊

We have a ton of papers coming into the house every day, mostly from school. One day last year, I was going through a stack of papers and I found one of Anna's assignments. The instructions were: "Use words, poetry or art to tell a story of a person you knew or have heard about who spreads the Good News of Jesus Christ." Here's what she wrote: "My Dad goes to Church and plays guitar at Church. He puts others before himself. He encourages others to go to Church."

I shed a couple tears after I read that the first time. The truth is that I only play guitar at Church a few times a year. I try to put others before myself but often fall short. And I've rarely had the courage to invite someone from outside our Church walls to join us.

We're working hard to determine the Mission, Vision and Values of Our Savior's. Many of the things that we put in there are not going to represent who we are today. Instead, they will be who we aspire to be in the future.

Just like I work hard every day to be the man my daughter wrote about, our congregation will work hard to become the congregation that God calls us to be.

God Bless,
Tyler Tweeten



Have You Checked It Out Yet?

We've made some BIG changes to the way we stay connected at OSL—and if you haven't taken a little time to explore our church app and newly redesigned website, we hope you will!

Change can be exciting…and, yes, sometimes a little uncomfortable. But these new tools are helping us take a big step forward as we continue growing as a connected, mission-driven church.

Our OSL app is becoming the go-to place for church life. Check the calendar, sign up to volunteer, manage your giving, watch worship, read Scripture, take sermon notes, share a prayer on the Prayer Wall, and find out what's happening—all from your phone.

And don't forget about the website! It has a fresh new look and is packed with information about our ministries, missions, worship, events, giving, and ways to get involved. Take a few minutes and click around—you might be surprised by how much is there!

The more we use these tools, the better connected we can be to one another and to the life of our church.

So this month, say YES to trying something new. Open the app. Explore the website. Click a few buttons. Sign up for something. You really can't break it.

A Change to Online Giving

Our transition from Vanco to Tithely for electronic giving is now complete! All existing Vanco recurring giving agreements have been canceled.

If you have not yet done so, please take a moment to set up your new electronic giving through Tithely. You can easily get started through our church app, our website, or by stopping in the church office and Krista will be happy to help.

Setting up your new recurring gift is easy! Here is a tutorial on how to get started:
https://support.tithe.ly/hc/en-us/articles/32619086849303-Creating-and-Updating-Your-Recurring-Gift-For-Tithely-Donors-Desktop

We know that transitioning to a new giving platform can take a little getting used to, and we're happy to help!

If you have questions about setting up your Tithely account, need help getting your electronic giving started, or simply aren't sure where to begin, please stop by the church office and talk to Krista. She'll be happy to walk you through the process and help make the transition as easy as possible.

»» CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY ««

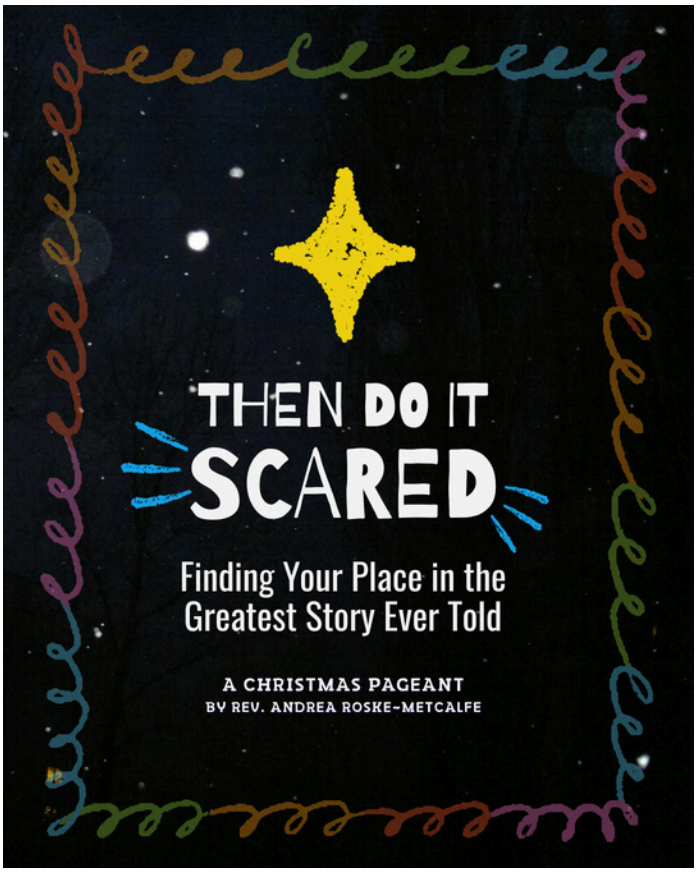
CREATED TO BE



TOP NEWS OF THE MONTH

»» CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS BEGIN NOVEMBER 1ST!

Get ready for a little Christmas magic! This year's pageant, "Then Do It Scared," is a heartwarming, joy-filled story about courage, belonging, and stepping outside our comfort zones—even when we're a little nervous! With a few laughs, some unexpected surprises, and a little drummer who just might steal the show, our children and youth will remind us that everyone has a place in God's story. Rehearsals begin November 1st, and we can't wait to bring this wonderful production to life, December 13th at 9am.



»» CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY ««

CREATED TO BE



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

A friendly reminder that the Sunday School kids will not be singing in November, due to the holiday weekend. They will continue to practice and prepare for their Christmas program.



Confirmands - We have your certificates and class picture ready for pick-up in the office! Stop by on Wednesday night or Sunday morning.

NOISY OFFERING



Make Some Noise for a Great Cause!
Our Noisy Offering is collected on the 4th Sunday of every month! This year, we're bringing back ELCA Good Gifts, turning our spare change into farm animals that help families build sustainable farms and brighter futures! We're excited to see just how many animals we can purchase together. So gather your coins, make some noise, and let's grow something wonderful!

»» CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY ««

CREATED TO BE



PLANNING AHEAD...





LOVE = ACTIONS



>>> LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED?





There's Something for Everyone This Holiday Season! 🎄

November and December are packed with wonderful opportunities to get involved, lend a hand, and have some fun along the way!

From Thanksgiving preparations with the Knudson's and friends to getting ready for Julefest, there's plenty to do! We need helping hands for lefse and krumkake making, Christmas decorating, hanging lights (ladder lovers, we're looking at you!), Salvation Army bell-ringing, and preparing and serving lasagna at the Salvation Army.

Keep checking our church app, website, and volunteer page as new opportunities will be added frequently!

Try something new, step outside your comfort zone, and get involved. You might just discover a hidden talent, make a new friend, or have more fun than you expected!

Hey, kids! Many of these activities count toward your Scarlet Cord Scholarship volunteer hours! If you're looking to earn hours, stop by and see Brooklyn or Krista.

Let's make this holiday season one filled with fellowship, laughter, and serving others!

»» WORSHIP ««



NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sun Nov 1 9:00 Blended All Saints/Communion
Wed Nov 4 5:30pm Dinner Church
Sun Nov 8 9:00am Blended
Wed Nov 11 5:30pm Dinner Church
Sun Nov 15 9:00am Blended/Communion
Wed Nov 18 5:30pm Dinner Church
Sun Nov 22 9:00am Blended
Wed Nov 25 NO DINNER CHURCH
Sun Nov 29 9:00am Blended/Advent 1



Dinner Church
Wednesdays 5:30

GOLDEN VOICE CHORALE FESTIVAL

November 7th at Gustavus Adolphus in St. Peter -
A one day festival specifically for singers 55+ led by director, Diane Heaney. Register to receive music and rehearsal tracks to practice ahead of time. The day of the event there is a coach bus provided from Albert Lea leaving at 7:45am. Rehearsal will start at 9am with breaks for socializing and lunch. There will be a final concert at 3pm in Christ Chapel. The whole day is FREE including lunch! Register online at: **https://acda-mn.org/golden-voices-2026** or call Diane for more information at: 507-383-4676

»» WORSHIP ««



FEELING SMALL AT THE GRAND CANYON

Last Sunday, our reading was from Joshua.

"Now, therefore, revere the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Pastor Mike mentioned how many people over the course of generations were necessary to come before you for it to be possible for you to be born. "If you go back 30 generations, 750 years, more than 1 billion people are responsible for your being here. 750 years ago, there wasn't even 1 billion people on earth...You aren't just in a city, in a county, in a country. You are on a planet flying through space, orbiting the sun...part of our solar system...part of the Milky Way galaxy..." which is only one of trillions of galaxies in this ever-expanding universe. It makes me feel small. It makes me feel insignificant.

I remember going to the Grand Canyon. We were on the south rim, and I walked out on this precipice that was maybe half as wide as this room. It was a 1000 foot drop on either side of where I stood. I looked around me, and I took a deep breath. The thought occurred to me, "The God that made this loves me." Suddenly, I didn't feel quite so small; quite so insignificant. I have come a long way. We have come a long way. But as Mike said, "...but the way you have come is not your way, but God's way." And just as I started to realize God's hand in creating everything I saw at the Grand Canyon, I realized God's hand in creating me.

As we near the end of this church year, we acknowledge and celebrate Pastor Mike has been with us for almost 12 months now. It's gone fast. We've done a lot of work. We've come a long way: from Austin to Florida and back for a mission trip; from our first Advent to All Saints; from being without a pastor to shepherd us to having a pastor who visits, preaches, and leads in love, equipped with the good news of the love of God for each of us. It is no accident that we are here now, in this place, sharing our place in the kingdom of God. We've come a long way, together! Thanks be to God!

Faithfully yours,

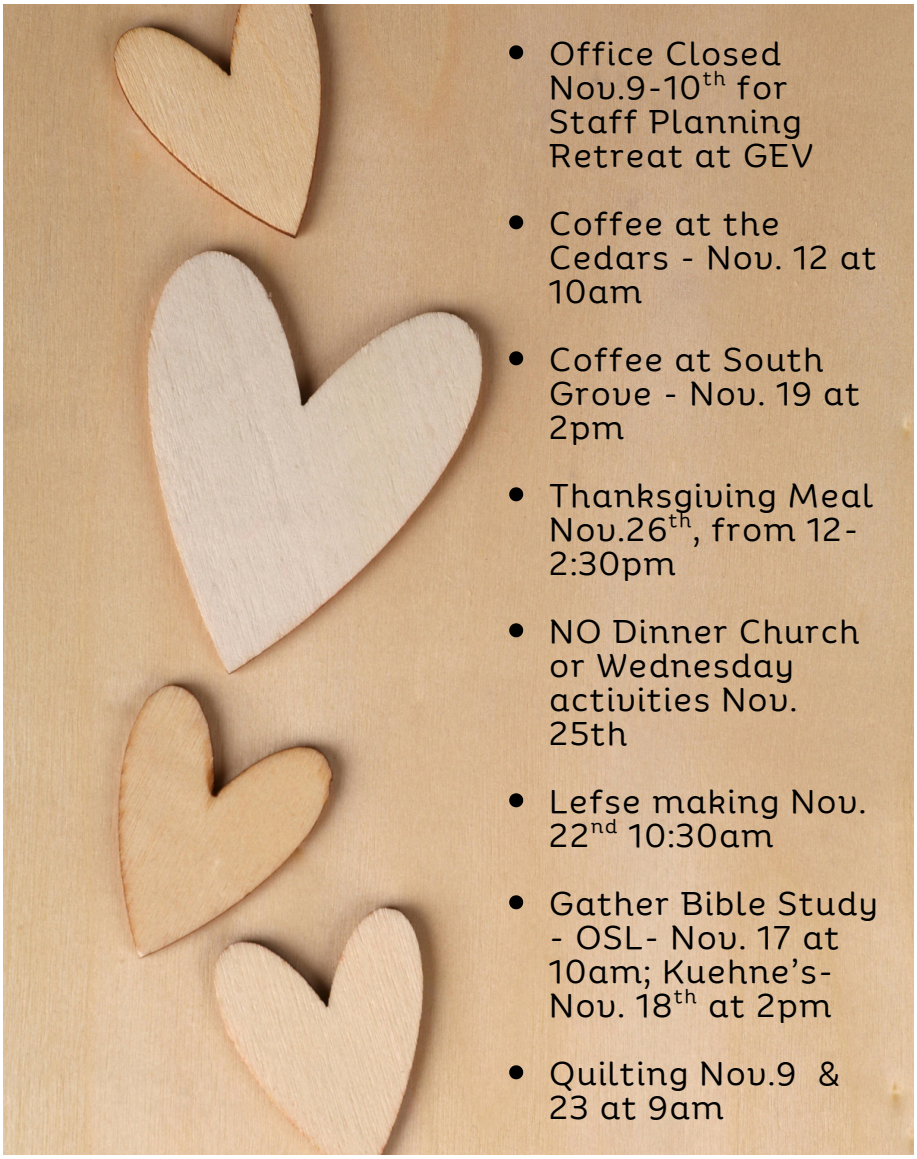
Rod Wiese

HERE'S THE



UNITING IN CHRIST

LOOKING AHEAD...



- Office Closed Nov.9-10th for Staff Planning Retreat at GEV
- Coffee at the Cedars - Nov. 12 at 10am
- Coffee at South Grove - Nov. 19 at 2pm
- Thanksgiving Meal Nov.26th, from 12-2:30pm
- NO Dinner Church or Wednesday activities Nov. 25th
- Lefse making Nov. 22nd 10:30am
- Gather Bible Study - OSL- Nov. 17 at 10am; Kuehne's- Nov. 18th at 2pm
- Quilting Nov.9 & 23 at 9am



Our Helping Hands team is ready and eager to go above and beyond in caring for our neighbors—it's simply what they do best. Whether it's painting a garage, fixing a door handle, hanging pictures, changing light bulbs, pulling weeds, moving furniture, grocery shopping, or even providing a ride to a doctor's appointment or church, no task is too small when it comes to supporting one another. If you have a need—or aren't quite sure where to start—reach out to Krista in the church office at 507-437-4516.

»OUTREACH«

»» THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who donated personal care items to the Hope Pantry & Closet this past month! Your kindness has helped fill our shelves and made a world of difference. We welcomed 7 new households this month, and your generosity helped us provide a little extra care and support. Thank you for loving our neighbors!

JULEFEST - DECEMBER 9TH 5:15PM



Gather your friends and family and join us for this beloved Scandinavian tradition! Enjoy homemade Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, rømmegrøt, krumkaka, and more! Appetizers begin at 5:15 PM, followed by a delicious dinner and entertainment at 6:45 PM.

Tickets: Adults $20 | Kids ages 5-13 $10

Come hungry, bring your holiday spirit, and celebrate Julefest with us!



GIVE THE GIFT OF WARMTH & KINDNESS THIS SEASON!

There are so many ways to share your time, talents, and gifts this holiday season!

Mitten Tree & Warm Hugs: Help keep our neighbors warm! Donate new or gently used winter coats and jackets to our coat rack, or hang mittens, hats, and gloves on the Mitten Tree. Donations support United Way and the Packer Pantry.

Ring a Bell, Make a Difference! We're ringing bells again for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign! Just one hour of your time helps support their food pantry and other programs serving neighbors during difficult times. Small acts of kindness can make a BIG difference! Watch for volunteer opportunities in the coming weeks. Thank you for sharing God's love with our community!

CONTACTS

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
EST. 1953

1600 W. OAKLAND AVE.
AUSTIN, MN 55912

SUNDAY SERVICE: 9 A.M.
SUNDAY EDUCATION HOUR: 10:15 A.M.
WEDNESDAY DINNER CHURCH: 5:30 P.M.

Lifelines is published monthly for members and friends of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Austin, MN. Notices for Lifelines must be submitted to the church office by the 20th of the month. Articles received after this date will not run or will run the next month. All articles are subject to editing for content or length.

OFFICE HOURS:

Office Hours:
Mon. - Thurs: 9-1 p.m.

Text: 507-437-4516
Phone: 507-437-4516

Email: oslc@oursaviorsaustin.org

ON STAFF

Lead Pastor: Michael Peuse- pastormichael@oursaviorsaustin.org
S.S Coordinator: Brooklyn Hansen- bhansen@oursaviorsaustin.org
Dir. of Youth & Music: Rod Wiese- rwiese@oursaviorsaustin.org
Dir. of Missions: Krista Kennedy- communications@oursaviorsaustin.org
Administrator: Krista Kennedy- communications@oursaviorsaustin.org
Dir. of Comm.: Krista Kennedy- communications@oursaviorsaustin.org
OSLC President: Tyler Tweeten

Wedding Coordinator: Christine Seppanen
Organists: Alyssa Klouse & Ryan Hulshizer
Accompanists: Brian Johnson & Nancy Arneson
Joyful Noise Director: Kaye Perry

WORSHIP SERVICES

Services will be recorded at 9 a.m. and may be found on our YouTube channel, Facebook page, and website.

Services:
Sundays - 9 a.m.
Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.

Anyuak service:
Sundays at 1 p.m.

PRAYER REQUESTS/VISITS

We ask that you please notify the church office if you or a loved one is in the hospital, or if you would like to be contacted by someone on our Care Team. If we are unable to visit in person, we will make other arrangements to make contact, whether by phone, email, or text.
Please notify us, so that we may support you. The congregational care team (Krista Kennedy) may be reached through the church office at 437-4516.