



SPIRE

OCTOBER 2025

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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PERMIT NO. 17
DEVILS LAKE, NORTH DAKOTA

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Olaf Lutheran Church

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www.stolafchurchdevilslake.com

Pastor Lori Pankratz

Email: lorip@gondtc.com

Darci Gilbertson

Office & Financial Secretary

Kirk Sweeney, Custodian

Dan Nybo, Organist



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

St. Olaf Church Constitution Amendment

On Sunday, September 7th, we had a short congressional meeting right after the 9:30am service where the congregation was informed about a constitutional change to lower the quorum needed for the annual meeting. We will have a second meeting on **Sunday, October 12th** following the 9:30am worship service to vote on the change to the constitution. All members, please attend to vote on this matter.

Dave Oehlke: Council President

Michael Kitsch: Stewardship

August General Fund Expenses

Auto Exp	359.20
BCBS Exp	1,105.10
Bulletin Exp.....	129.51
Church Supplies	123.46
Convention Exp	411.00
Custodian HIR	250.00
Otter Tail Power	699.00
Envelope Giving Exp	31.30
MDU Exp	568.00
Insurance Exp(2 mos) ..	3,253.60
Maintenance Exp	1,785.60
Macs: 50.50	
LR Sheet Metal: 1,652.04	
Ace Hardware—83.06	
Office Equip. Exp.....	418.29
Office Supplies	206.32
Other Misc. Exp	6.98
Pastor Housing	1,533.34
Pastor Soc. Sec. Allow ...	461.56
Payroll Exp.....	497.78
Pension/Ins. Exp	3,298.96
Postage Exp	523.04
Pulpit Supply	450.00
Special Gifts—Out:	1,100.00
To Elevator Fund: 100.00	
To Norway Cemetery: 1,000.00	
NDTC	472.59
Vocal Director Exp.....	450.00
Worship Supplies	643.00
Wages	10,756.77
Total Expenses:	\$26,151.29
Total Income:	\$23,601.31

Retreat Center Fund August Expenses

Guide One Insurance...	150.00
Nodak	153.00
Greater Ramsey Water..	42.20
MDU	35.90



October Mission of the Month

The clear box at the back of the sanctuary (entrance) is set up at each worship service to bring awareness to missions that we want to support with our donations. Each month we will highlight the mission of the month.

The mission of the month for October is Dacotah Oyate Lutheran Church. The Dacotah Oyate Lutheran Church at Tokio recently had to be gutted due to issues with mold and so please respond with your donations to make needed repairs to their place of worship- for our Mission of the Month.

St. Olaf WELCA Updates

- At the August meeting Florene Rogne of Debrah Circle presented a great program titled: the different hat women wear.
- Several quilts were delivered to Red Willow Bible Camp for the quilt auction. Thank you ladies.
- The WELCA Convention held at St. Olaf went well. Thanks to everyone who participated.
- Thank you to the great response for the personal care items collected for the Hope Center. Thank you to Kathy Lovseth & Rodger Haugen for delivering them.
- Many bags of schools supplies were donated for our Dakota Prairie Community Action Agency project. Thanks to all who donated to help our local children and a special thanks to Roberta Beihoffer and Kathy Lovseth for delivering them.
- We are busy sorting and getting ready for the fall rummage sale on Saturday, Oct. 4. Please volunteer to help as you are able. We will have our BIG HAUL OUT NIGHT ON WEDNESDAY, OCT. 1 beginning about 5:00 p.m. COME AND HELP AS YOU ARE ABLE. Thursday and Friday will be unpacking and setting up. Many hands will be needed for this task. The sale will begin at 8:00 a.m. Saturday morning. Circles please remember – you are in charge of desserts.
- Coloring, Coffee and Conversation was held Thursday, Sept. 18 with good attendance. Thank you, Jean Aardahl, for the coffee and goodies.
- Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, Oct. 12th following the worship service

God's blessings, Myrna Unger, WELCA president

General Fund Envelope Giving & Memorials & Designated Funds

SUNDAY		General Fund:	General Fund:	Designated Funds:
Date	8:30 11:00	Envelope Giving	Gifts & Memorials	Memorials/Donations
August 31	NA 46	\$1,897.00	\$185.00	\$255.75
	9:30 a.m.			
September 7	104	\$3,692.00	\$155.00	\$1,649.00
September 14	89	\$4,211.50	\$300.00	\$687.00
September 21	102	\$2,478.00	\$10.00	\$98.00

Electronic Giving for AUGUST (27 Households): \$3,220.00

FAITH MATTERS;

~ Pastor Lori ~

PRAYERS OF LAMENT IN SUCH A TIME AS THIS

God, we need your leadership desperately. Turn us away from the cycle and scourge of violence and hatred. Be with all those who have suffered gun violence and political violence in America in recent weeks and months: with the Hortman and Hoffman families and their loved ones, with the students and staff and families at Annunciation Church School, with the family and loved ones of Charlie Kirk, with the family and loved ones of the victims of the school shooting in Colorado this past week. And for all those I didn't name but hold dearly in our heart. We cry out with grief and lament for healing and repair. We pray for mental health resources and support for all who were impacted, and for leaders to take action against the easy availability of deadly automatic weapons. We pray for all school students, educators, staff, and families who are returning to school in this season. God, keep them safe. God, keep them safe. God, keep them safe!

For all preparing for hurricane season and repairing from natural disasters, including floods, drought, wildfires, smoke and extreme heat. For governments and leaders to prioritize climate change solutions above profit and greed.

We pray with deep sighs for the war and death and violence in the Holy Land. We continue to pray for an end to escalating violence in Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, Iran, and throughout the Middle East - as well as in Sudan and Yemen. May world leaders prioritize peace over power, and mercy over might. May those who cry out for justice and an end to war be protected and heard. May all those who are providing aid and food and seeking assistance in Gaza be protected in the midst of violence and starvation, around food distribution.

For so many loved ones who have recently been diagnosed with cancer and are undergoing treatment. May they have caring and high-quality care, rest as needed, and loving support of family and friends. We also pray for all those who are caring for loved ones who are going through myriad health challenges, including mental health and addiction. Grant them rest and relief in difficult and fearful times. May our leaders be humbled to listen to scientists and doctors and prioritize health and life over profit.

For those who continue to live and fight in Ukraine, that the world will not turn away its attention from the plight of Ukrainians and surrounding countries and their stand against authoritarianism.

For all those who don't have a safe place to live or enough food to eat, that they might be first and receive what they need. We know in your abundance Lord there is enough for all.

For journalists, who risk their lives and livelihood to write and report truth - even against the wishes of media ownership and administration.

For all the concerns deep on our hearts, that you hear and know and acknowledge, we pray ... In hope of the boundless joy of a Spirit-filled existence, to worship God with excitement, love, peace and inclusion, In Jesus' name we pray, AMEN



Alyssa Schall
SSgt. Sherri Read &
SSgt. Barry Read
Cpl. Jeffrey J. Olson
Sgt. Jesse S. Olson
Grant Thompson
Justin & Jill Johnson
Derrick Owens
Jonathan Pearson
Matthew Martin
Sgt. Major Brian Soper
Nevon Heisler
Brian Pederson
Cory Schall
Brent Schall
Amy & Cory Everson
Austin Dammen
Ryan Mertens
Gregory Fritz
Spc. Jade Baker
Major Miranda Iverson
SSgt. Billyjo Sandberg
Captain Cassidy Wilkins
Kaitlyn Thompson
Matthew Alexander
Trentin Ystaas

*If you know of someone
serving in the military,
please let the church office
(662-4911) know.*

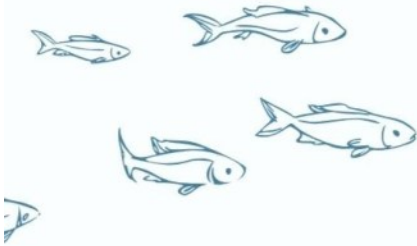


Tenth Grade Confirmation Meeting Wednesday, October 1, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. to inform of final projects/requirements and instructions for the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025*.

*Pictures at 8:15 a.m.



Barbara Janzen



LUTEFISK & MEATBALL SUPPER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

3:00 PM - 6:30 PM

ST. OLAF LUTHERAN CHURCH
601 6th St. NE
Devils Lake



ONLY \$25

Children under 6 free

MENU:

Lutefisk
Meatballs & Gravy
Boiled Potatoes
Peas
Coleslaw
Cranberry sauce
Lefse
Rømmegrøt
Dessert



stock photo

Fall RUMMAGE SALE

Join us for a delightful morning of food
and shopping!



Saturday,
October 4



The Event starts
at 8 AM and
ends at 2 PM

Make a donation on non-food items unless marked

St. Olaf
Lutheran Church 601 6th St. NE
Devils Lake

Sweet Treats & Coffee
starting at 8 am
BBQ Lunch
starting at 11 am

Al a Carte
Pricing

DOUGHNUTS
FOR SALE
\$10⁰⁰

per dozen

September Council Meeting Minutes

The St. Olaf Lutheran Church council met on September 2, 2025.

Present: David Oehlke, Colette Boehmer, Arne Berg, Kristi Trottier, Louise Oleson, Anne Rasmusson, Michael Kitsch, Pastor Lori Pankratz, Darci Gilbertson. Absent: Evan Markestad

President Dave Oehlke called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Pastor Lori presented a devotion from Genesis 1: 26-31, highlighting God's call to mankind regarding stewardship. God granted humankind authority or dominion over the fish, birds, and every living creature, a role that involves responsible stewardship of the earth. Pastor Lori led us in prayer.

The minutes of the August 2025 council meeting were reviewed. Thank you to Anne for preparing the minutes. Kristi moved to accept the minutes. Arne seconded. The minutes were approved.

Arne presented the Treasurer's report. Approximate balances as of August 31, 2025. General fund: \$1900.00; Designated funds: \$73,000.00. Money has been borrowed from the Contingency fund over the summer to meet payroll.

Pastor Lori's report was reviewed. She presided over 2 funerals and 2 baptisms. She highlighted upcoming events - Rally Sunday, WELCA fall conference, WELCA rummage sale, and Dakotah Oyate Christmas gift bags.

Christian Education and Youth & Family Ministry: Kristi and Anne reported that Rally Sunday will be on September 7. Kristi has created new registration forms for Sunday school participants. All Sunday School teachers are in place, and the Spark curriculum will be used.

Church Properties, Life in Ministry & Mission - No reports.

Stewardship: Michael reported that Jeri Steffan completed a count of St. Olaf members for the purpose of amending the constitution regarding quorum for the annual meeting. Based on Jeri's count the council is proposing a change from a quorum of 75 to a quorum of 10% of current membership which is approximately 420 members. Two congregational meetings are needed to make a change to the constitution. The first meeting will be on Sunday, Sept. 7 to introduce the proposal and the second meeting is scheduled for Octo-

ber 12, 2025, to vote on the proposed amendment to the constitution.

Worship & Music: Pastor Lori reported that she will use a Dr. Suess liturgy for Rally Sunday as the theme for Sunday school is "Oh, the places you'll go!" (with God).

Unfinished Business: Darci reported that she now has an app on her phone to control the thermostats in the church building. No updates on doors and locks at the church building and Retreat Center. No updates on renovation of the Women's bathroom in the church basement.

New Business: Rally Day, September 7, 2025. Previously discussed under Christian Education.

The next council meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2025, at 5:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Colette Boehmer



Color, Coffee & Conversation Thursday, Oct. 16 @ 1:30 p.m.

This event is for all adults, men and women, who enjoy coloring in adult coloring books or would like to try it. Colored pencils and coloring books will be provided, but you may also bring whatever you have. If you wish you can come just for the coffee and treats and social interaction.

Please RSVP to Jean Aardahl at 662-9227

SUNDAY OCTOBER 26

6:30PM - 8:00PM

TRICK
OR
TREAT
STREET

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN
612 14TH AVE. NE DEVILS LAKE

Faith & Care Group #6—October 2025

Heath & Annie Alexander, Brandon, Rachel
 Gary & Cynthia Axtman, Danica
 Duainne & Paula Bourcy
 Janice Carlson
 Ben & Erin Erickstad, Payton, Mason
 Kenneth Forsberg, Lisa & Lucas
 Michael Grafsgaard, Jaydon, Nathaniel, Jenni-
 ca
 Rhonda Greicar
 Jeff & Diane Halverson
 Jason & Monica Halverson, Collyns
 Armen & Connie Hanson
 Francis & Delores Johanson
 Jeff & Shelley Kenner
 Jessica & Mike Kraft
 David & Angie Larson, Paige & Benjamin
 Jeri Larson
 Evan Markestad, Jace, Evelyne
 Brian & Natalie Miller, Anthony
 Jerry & Daria Miller
 Betty Ness
 Chad & Amanda Peterson, Emmitt, Blakely,
 Collyns, Rhettlyn
 Betty Petska

Brian & Rachel Quam, Grace, Grant, Grady
 Rory & Charlotte Riggan
 Michael & Lisa Rodriguez, Caleb, Mya,
 Aunica
 Mike & Laurie Rodriguez, Sr.
 Jon Saastad, Colton, Nathan
 Dustin & Ashley Samuelson, Ryland, Gregor,
 Raya
 Brent & Natasha Schall, Evan, Natalie,
 Bella, Mercadeez, Sandra
 Deanne Sogge, Michael
 Tanner & Alexis Sotvik, Benson, Hattie, Huck
 Cheryl Stack, Shawn
 Jeri Steffan
 Richard & Jan Thompson
 Diane Togstad
 Lynn & Deb Toso, Kaylee
 Jane Vang
 Marlys Wang
 Albert Wood
 Steve & Erin Wood, Madison, Zachary,
 Christopher & Andrew

Faith & Care Group #7—November 2025

Duane A. & Pam Armstrong
 Adam & Sara Bachmeier, Lane, Brooke, Brit-
 tany
 Pam Bartlett
 Sarah Bergeron
 Karin & Kyle Blanchfield, Warren, Landen
 Rudi & Dianne Bloomquist
 Michael & Sherry Boehmer
 Paul & Karen Clementich, Sean, Blair &
 Erin
 Bill & Angie DeWall, Jacquelyn, Janessa
 & Jady
 Frans & Brittany Du Plessis, Ian, Jenner
 Aaron & Bethany Elshaug, Sophie
 Norris & Renae Elshaug, Marti & Hannah
 Collin Evenson
 Richard & Rita Foss
 Roger & Michelle Fritz, Gregory, Rachel
 Perry & Denise Garske
 Scott Gerrells, Kody, Robyn, Stevie
 Monice Goodman
 Bryan & Janet Hannesson, Benjamin,
 Logan

Gary Johnson
 Connie Jorgenson
 Steven & Becky Juntunen, Tenneil
 Karen Krueger
 Kristy Laber, Mason, Reiley, Tyler
 Amy Lee, Austin & Brady
 Brady & Jeani Legacie, Finleigh
 Dustin & Ashley Legacie, Braxton, Declan
 Joanne Legacie
 Newton & Karen Lindseth
 Heather MacDonald, Aubrey, Burkley
 Judy MacDonald
 Karen Meier
 Keith & Cynthia Myhre
 Cathy Odendaal
 Mark & Eva Olson
 Sharon Peterson
 Florene Rogne
 Harris & Dianne Saele
 Marlys Sollin
 Allen & Peggy Tabor

SIMPLY GIVING: As a part of our desire to make giving simple and convenient; we have created an online giving page through Vanco. Each part focuses on one of the causes here at St. Olaf and a couple outside as well. Our hope is that this site will allow you to see more of what you can give to and make an impact through the ministries of St. Olaf. The QR code below can be scanned via smartphone and will take you straight to the site or find it at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZA6T/home>



Memorials

GENERAL FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

LaDonna Dahlen from Kermit “Buzz” & Glenna Garske, Stan & Sharon Orness, Ron & Barb Miller, Duainne & Paula Bourcy, Doris Michaels, Dennis & Jean Aardahl, Florene Rogne, Judy Ovre

Given in HONOR of:

Kade Lybeck, Harper Larson and Rowen Larson from Rich & Carol Lybeck
Dear Friends from St. Olaf from Helen Armstrong

WELCA

Given in MEMORY of:

LaDonna Dahlen from Betty Nygren, Newton & Karen Lindseth

ST. OLAF FOUNDATION

Given in MEMORY of:

LaDonna Dahlen from Rodger Haugen, Kathy Lovseth
Nelda Langton from Rodger Haugen, Kathy Lovseth

ALTAR GUILD FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

LaDonna Dahlen from Harris & Dianne Saele

BUILDING FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

LaDonna Dahlen from Denny & Judith Swab

RADIO/FACEBOOK FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

LaDonna Dahlen from Robert Dahl, Dennis & Judy Thompson, Dennis & Karen Riggan

RETREAT CENTER FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

LaDonna Dahlen from Allan Thompson



OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
*Communion Sundays: October 5, 19 & 26			1 5:00 Rummage Sale Set-up 6:00 Confirmation 7:30 10th Grade Confirmands Meeting	2 9:00 Rummage Sale Set-up	3 9:00 Rummage Sale Set-up	4 7:00am Bible Study at Whitehouse Café 8:00 Fall Rummage Sale
5* 9:30 Worship with Communion & 3rd Graders Receive Bible 10:00 Sun. School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 3rd Grade Bible Class	6	7 9:00 Quilting	8 9:00 Lefse 10:30 Staff Mtg. 6:00 Confirmation	9 .	10	11 7am Bible Study at WH
12 9:30 Worship followed by Spec. Cong. Mtg. No Sun. School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 3:00 Sons of Norway	13 9:00 Lefse Making	14 9:00 Quilting 10:30 Text Study 5:00 Church Council Meeting	15 10:30 Staff Mtg. No confirmation	16 1:30 Color, Coffee, Conversation	17	18 7:00am Bible Study at Café 8:00 Lutefisk Supper Prep 1:00 Baby Shower
19* 9:30 Worship with Communion No Sun. School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 3:00 Lutefisk & Meatball Supper	20	21 9:00 Quilting	22 10:30 Staff Mtg. 6:00 Faith Expression Banquet for 7-10th grades	23	24 4:00 Spire newsletter deadline	25 7:00am Bible Study at Whitehouse
26* 8:15 Pictures 9:30 Worship with Communion & Confirmation 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Coffee with F&C #7 Meeting 6:30 Trick or Treat at Our Saviors	27	28 9:00 Quilting 10:30 Text Study	29 10:30 Staff Mtg. 6:00 Confirmation	30	31	