



SPIRE

OCTOBER 2024

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 17
DEVILS LAKE, NORTH DAKOTA

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Olaf Lutheran Church

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Email: stolaf@gondtc.com

www.stolafchurchdevilslake.com

Pastor Lori Pankratz

Email: lorip@gondtc.com

Darci Gilbertson

Office & Financial Secretary

Kirk Sweeney, Custodian

Dan Nybo, Organist

Jayne Mlynar

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Email: stolafymc@gondtc.com



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



Fall
**RUMMAGE
SALE**

Join us for a delightful morning of food
and shopping!

 **Saturday,
October 5**

 The Event starts
at 8 AM and
ends at 2 PM

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

Al a Carte
Pricing

**DOUGHNUTS
FOR SALE
\$8.00
per dozen**

Free will giving on non-food items unless marked

August General Fund Expenses

Auto Exp (Mileage)	334.13
BCBS Exp	907.74
Church Supplies.....	166.67
Convention Exp.....	103.00
Custodian HIR Exp	250.00
Electricity Exp (Ottetail)	754.00
Envelope Giving Exp (EFT)	37.84
Gas (MDU) Exp	427.00
Insurance (2 mos.)	2,742.00
Maintenance Exp.	8.65
Office Equip	413.44
Office Supplies.....	160.51
Miscellaneous Exp	6.95
Pastor Housing Allowance.....	1,366.68
Pastor SS Allowance	410.56
Payroll Exp.....	561.21
Pension/Ins	3,121.50
Postage Exp.....	134.57
Pulpit Supply	450.00
City of DL	124.76
Special Gifts—Out:	
To Building Fund—100.00	
Hope Ctr.—152.47	
ELCA World Hunger—152.47	
VBS.....	3.58
Vocal Director Exp	200.00
Wedding Exp(to Pr. & Cust.)	250.00
Worship Supplies (licenses).....	894.90
Wages.....	11,161.00

Total Expenses..... \$22,653.63

Total Income..... \$17,023.41

Retreat Center Fund August Expenses

Guide One Insurance ...	150.00
Nodak	177.00
Greater Ramsey Water ..	50.95
MDU (June & July)	25.38

Total Expenses \$403.33



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 the Freedom Center.

The Freedom Center provides a hot meal for those dealing with food insecurity in our own community.

St. Olaf W.E.L.C.A. Updates

- Quilting news: for special Lutheran World Relief project of over 100 baby quilts were sent from our group. Several blankets were given to the SAAF program.
- Thanks to all who helped with doughnut and lefse days
- Loretta Bloomquist and several members attended the Fall Conference at Sharon Lutheran Church in Grand Forks on September 28th.
- Our Fall Rummage Sale will be October 5 from 8:00 until 2:00.

It is a lot of work but with good fellowship! Thanks to all who have helped with sorting and getting ready for this day. Please join us for coffee, lunch and shopping!

- The Flower Shop work will begin Wednesday, Oct. 9th at 9:00 a.m.
- Next meeting will be Sunday, Oct. 13th following the service—downstairs. Debra circle will be serving.

**God's Blessings,
Myrna Unger, WELCA President**

Windows Restoration & Preservation Project Update:

The St. Olaf Executive Council had a special meeting on September 25, 2024, to make a decision before a deadline brought forward for the stained glass window project. Present: Michael Kitsch, Arne Berg, Dave Oehlke and Pastor Lori. Absent: Collette Boehmer. The south windows were overlooked for proposal #5 because the initial proposal (2015) did not include them. They were not included because of work that had been done recently (1996). In talking with Oliver Foninier of Willet House/Associated Crafts, work on the exposed wood is necessary to protect them from the elements before further damage occurs. Cost increases are imminent. It would be in our best interest to move forward with this change order at this time. The decision was made at this meeting to add the south windows to the work order. Council President Michael Kitsch will keep the congregation informed as more information becomes available.

General Fund Envelope Giving & Memorials & Designated Funds

SUNDAY		General Fund:	General Fund:	Designated Funds:
Date	9:30 am	Envelope Giving	Gifts & Memorials	Memorials/Donations
September 1	54	\$2,652.00		\$770.86
September 8	73	\$5,910.00		\$331.00
September 15	113	\$2,316.00		\$1,221.10
September 22	79	\$2,833.00		\$210.75

Electronic Giving for AUGUST (29 Households): \$3,760.00

FAITH MATTERS;

~ Pastor Lori ~

Generosity

We hear the word Stewardship and often we stop listening. This word has gained negative connotations attached to money. But it also involves our time and our talents as well. There are many definitions and sayings attached to the word "Stewardship" One definition that I love is "What happens once you say 'I believe'" One quote I heard says this: "Pocketbooks and Check-books are moral instruments and so are our hands and our voice".

Perhaps we could look at Stewardship or what I like to call Generosity in a different way. Such as changing the mindset that our offering is meant to pay the bills and turn that around to say our Offering and Generosity are for the purpose of fueling God's mission through our church and to respond to God's goodness and grace. What's necessary is the offering: to share the word, to attend to the congregation, the sick and dying and community; to do our work for God's mission, to pay the water bill that makes the coffee for fellowship; to heat our building for worship, fellowship and youth programs and community services to all; to make our quilts and other projects to share our mission with the world. It enables us as St. Olaf Lutheran Church to be a community of faith together.

Think about it, why do we need water, heat and staff to complete our mission? Because that is the story of our church and why what we put in the offering plate matters. Think about why we need this space -to tell the gospel story and to offer and invite others to a place where they can be offered confession and forgiveness on a weekly basis. Where else than the church can that happen? Where else can our children and families be offered the sacraments of Baptism and Communion- the Saving Grace of Christ Immanuel (God with us). These are the things of our mission that matter and if our mission is to happen our offering and generosity are a vital and necessary part of our mission and our story.

I ask you to give a bit more in the offering plate - even if it is 20 more dollars, or 1 or 2 percent more, or use Simply giving (electronic giving) or auto payments through your bank that comes in regularly (the summer and fall months are quite lean at the church) Imagine the mission/ ministry we could do if everyone took one step up in faithful giving. All these small things make a big difference!

This place changes lives because of what God has first given us and done for us!

Be Blessed, Pr. Lori

St. Olaf Church Properties Report

By the time you read this the church carpets should all be cleaned in our main church and the Retreat Center has almost come to an end for the year. We think all went well for the year. A special thanks goes out to the Hansons for all the yard work and Allan, along with others, for clearing trees.

The big project that is coming to a close is our new shed. The old white garage is now in the city landfill. The new building has been purchased through a gift to our church. Other gifts that have been received are: the purchase of gravel for the site and a Thrivent gift card of \$250 Action Team Dollars that is being used to pay for miscellaneous items. With many hands this new building has been moved and placed on a bed of gravel. A number of items still need to be completed before winter. The cost of moving the building must be paid, purchase of electrical supplies, interior shelving, placement of ramp, and a few other misc. items. Donations and Thrivent Cards are welcome.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has helped support this project at this time.

Sincerely, Your Church Property Board



Color, Coffee & Conversation

Thursday, Oct. 17

@ 1:30 p.m.
In the Library

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

Leave a message if no answer



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.



Hello:

Yes “the race is on”. The race for another busy and fun filled year of Sunday School and confirmation, school activities and sports.

Sunday, Sept. 15 was our Dr. Suess Sunday and our Sunday school rally. Along with meeting our teachers, we played some fun games and had a snack of green donuts to go along with the Green Eggs and Ham sermon. Sunday school will be the same as last year, with children being dismissed from church at 10:00 and go to their Sunday school rooms. We will have a music time thanks to Rachel Kitsch during the hour. All classes will be held on the third floor this year. If you have not registered your child yet, please do so. Registration forms can be found at the front entrance of the church, or in the church office. No Sunday School scheduled for October 20th

The Youth Group got off to an “Amazing Race” on Sunday evening (Sept. 15). We had fun, food and fellowship.

Confirmation classes will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings, with supper and class to follow. No confirmation scheduled for Wednesday, October 16th.

Third graders will receive their Bibles on October 6th during worship and will join me and their parents for instruction on Bible use during Sunday School time (10:00 a.m.)

The blessings of the animals will be Sunday, October 13th during Sunday school outside in the grass area near the parking lot. Weather permitting, coffee hour will be held outside following worship service.

Another date to keep in mind is October 27—confirmation and also Trick or Treat Street at Our Saviors (see next page).

God’s Blessings to all of you.

Jayne Mlynar
St. Olaf Youth Ministry Coordinator
218 866 0330



For 10th Grade Confirmands:

Oct. 2: Confirmation Class at 7:30 p.m. to receive instructions for final requirements for Confirmation Sunday

Oct. 23: Faith Expression Banquet at 6:00 p.m. (with communion). Please bring family and sponsors, faith project, faith statement and a picture of you as a child

October 27: Confirmation Sunday. Please be at the church at 8:30 for photos with your robe on. Stay for cake and pictures following the service.



Mark your calendars for Fall Gatherings 2024!

Fall Gatherings are an opportunity to spend time in fellowship and mutual learning with other members of your conference and synod staff. Share ideas, hear updates from around the synod and your conference, and spend time in conversation with area faith leaders and ELCA members. We hope you'll join us!

- Spirit Lake Conference: November 2, 1pm-3pm @ St. Olaf Lutheran, Devils Lake

HOST A DOORWAY AT THE 2024



St. Olaf
is invited
to host a
doorway!

SUNDAY OCTOBER 27 • 6:30PM - 8:00PM
AT OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN

Scan here for
online sign-up



September Church Council Minutes

The St. Olaf Lutheran Church council met on September 3, 2024.

Present: Arne Berg, Colette Boehmer, Harris Saele, Rodger Haugen, Louise Oleson, Glenn Crowe, Pastor Lori Pankratz, Jayne Mlynar, Darci Gilbertson.

Absent: Michael Kitsch, David Oehlke, Kristi Trotter, Crystal Eversvik, Jeri Steffan.

In the absence of President Michael Kitsch and VP Dave Oehlke, the meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Rodger Haugen as designated by Arne Berg. Pastor Lori began by relating information that she learned from a stewardship conference that she and Glenn had recently attended. Emphasis was placed on how to reframe offering and different ways to look at missions in response to God's Good News. Also to look at the economic impact that St. Olaf church has as a gathering place in the Devils Lake community. Pastor Lori led the council in prayer.

The minutes of the August 2024 meeting were reviewed. Glenn moved to accept the minutes. Arne seconded. The minutes were approved.

Arne presented the Treasurer's report. Balances as of August 31, 2024
- Designated Funds: \$53,101.68; Building Fund: \$78,235.60; General Fund: (\$4,824.51). Darci expressed the need for increased giving to be able to pay upcoming bills and make payroll. The Contingency fund balance is at \$3,590.76. The radio/Facebook streaming fund shows a negative balance. Darci also noted that March was the last month we gave a 2% donation to the synod.

Pastor Lori's report was reviewed. She presided at two funerals and one wedding in August in addition to her daily and weekly activities and duties. Pastor Lori stated that the repair to the stained-glass windows is scheduled to begin on Sept. 10, 2024.

Jayne reported that there are some Sunday school classes that are still in need of teachers. Rally Day is scheduled for Sept. 14 with a Dr. Suess theme.

Christian Education plus Youth & Family Ministry have a meeting scheduled for Sept. 4, 2024. No report at this time.

No reports from Life in Ministry & Mission, Stewardship, Worship & Music boards.

Church Properties: Harris reported that he and Dale Giedd replaced the thermal coupler and safety valve in the church kitchen oven after it stopped heating. The stove hood is in need of inspection. Harris and Rodger pumped out the elevator pit as ground water had seeped in due to recent heavy rainfalls. The garage on church property will be torn down and replaced by a newer larger garage. Two bids were received for carpet cleaning to be done in the church building. SteamTech of Devils Lake was the lowest bid. Arne Berg moved to accept the bid from SteamTech and have this company clean the carpets. Rodger seconded. The motion was approved.

Unfinished Business: Pastor Lori reported that the repairs to the stained-glass windows will start on Sept. 10. It will take approximately 3 - 5 weeks. Half of the \$15,000 grant money has

been received with the remaining money to be received at the completion of the project.

New Business:

The Executive council (Michael, Dave, Arne, Colette) met with Pastor Lori and Darci on August 25. Concerns were raised about elevator maintenance, telephone issues, and use of the audio-visual system by people other than Glenn and Jeremy. The Executive council agreed that the church board descriptions and policies should be reviewed. This is being addressed at the current church council meeting. The Church Properties board description will be reviewed by Harris and Rodger before any changes will be made.

Darci reported that a member of the congregation would like to donate a car to St. Olaf church. The money received from the sale of the car would be given to the stained-glass window fund per the member's request. Glenn will check with Devils Lake Cars and Rodger will check with Wahl Auto to find out the value. Harris moved to sell the car to whichever dealership, Devils Lake Cars or Wahl Auto, gives the highest bid. Arne seconded. The motion was approved.

The next council meeting is scheduled for October 8 at 5:30 pm.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Colette Boehmer



LUTEFISK & MEATBALL SUPPER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

3:00 PM - 6:30 PM

ST. OLAF LUTHERAN CHURCH

601 6th St. NE
Devils Lake

ONLY \$24

Children under 6 free

MENU:

Lutefisk
Meatballs & gravy
Boiled Potatos
Peas
Coleslaw
Cranberry sauce
Lefse
Dessert

Faith & Care Group #1—October 2024

Ray & Deb Bertsch
Doug & Darlene Carlson
Rhea Crane
Brad & Deb Eback, Marissa, Emily, Landen
Chad & Alisha Ehnert, Morgan, Breydin
James & Bernadine Ehnert
Nikki Elspeger, August
Diane Engebretson
Cory & Amy Everson, Faith, Blake
Jim & Debra Frank, Darren, Mallorie
Mark & Darci Gilbertson, Taylor, Wyatt
Kimberly Hatten
Robert & Sheri Hatten, Kendall, Stephanie
Steve & Sharon Johanson
Roger Knutson
Steve & Becky Lang, Amanda, Kaylee
Darin & Stacy MacDonald, Beth
Danielle Malek, Parker, Beckett, Annistyn
Vonda Markestad
Ronald & Barbara Miller
Jamie Minnerup, Shayla, Shelby, Brynlee
Dan & Bonnie Ness, Wyatt
Kitty Overbo

Darren & Nikki Paulson, Lyla, Tucker
Brian Pederson
ReAnne Pederson, Keegan, Emmalynn, Seth
Janet Peterson
Brent & Toni Pflaum, Travis
Kim Rau & Kevin Birkeland, Cody
Dennis & Karen Riggan
Lance & Tammy Riggan, Hunter, Nash, Harper
Roxanne Rose
Anna Schemioneck
Randy & Julie Schemioneck, Alexis, Ryan
Justin & Jessica Schemioneck, Bridger
Ray Sletteland
Michael & Cheryl Steffan
Arlo & Darlene Svedberg, Erika
Gary & Kerry Thompson
Kristie Tollefson
Clarence Jr. & Linda Toso, Justin
Jason & Niki Toso, Kyleigh, Kole
Janet Tweeten
James & Kelly Wang, Marit, Peter
Deb Weber Brady, Griffin
Steve Weber

Faith & Care Group #2—November 2024

Dennis & Jean Aardahl
Eric & Corrine Aasmundstad, Britt, Jenna, Taylor
Harlan Adahl
Duane A. & Susan Armstrong, Molly & Ben
Judy Aronson
Arne & Kristi Berg
Dean & Allison Blazer
Kory & Colette Boehmer, William
Marvin & Patricia Bye, Bryan, Justin
Jared & Elisa Christensen, Cassandra, Kaylee, Carter
Judy Cox, Michael & Patrick
Wendy Cox Olson, Jacob, Austin
Jeremy & Jennifer Devier, Blair, Coby, Austin, Zoe, Braxton, Eliza, Piper
Cynthia Geller, Dana, Kirsten, Stephanie
Lynn Goodwill, Natalie
Sharon Henke
Lloyd Hintz
Melissa Hodous, Brody, Mason, Bennett

Michael & Rachel Kitsch, Sophie, Grace, Eve
Kristian & Danielle Lindseth, Isabel, Abigail
Brent & Emilee Luehring, Beckhem, Jensen, Brevin, Livie
Nicole McIvor, Julia, Blaine
Necito Montaniel
Allan Mosbaek
James H. Murray
Keith & Joan Ness
Robert Ness
Rene & Sherri Ouellette
Carol Rieger
Art & Carol Rohr
Byron & Jessica Rohr, Julia, Clara, Wyatt
David & Ranae Schnaidt, Emily
Terry & Connie Straabe, Caitlin, Michelle & Tara
Jarrod & Lori Stubbe, Quenten & Malcolm
Shirley Tostenson
Allison Yoder, Berginn, Ealynn

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

BUILDING FUND:

Stained Glass Windows
Given in MEMORY of:

Gordon Braathen from Dennis & Jean Aardahl, Kent Braathen, Scott & Darlene Brown, Russell & Anna Mertens, Robert Dahl

Nan Yager from Myrna Unger

Jean Ivesdal from Rodney Ivesdal

Lee LaBarre from Rich & Carol Lybeck

Sandi Lunde from Myrna Unger

NORWAY CEMETERY FUND:

Given in MEMORY of:

Glenn & Ardy Salisbury from The Urbans

RADIO/FACEBOOK FUND:

Given in MEMORY of:

Lee LaBarre from Myrna Peterson

MUSIC FUND:

Given in MEMORY of:

Rev. E.L. & Inez Rude from Myrna Unger





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 9:00 Quilting 10:00 Text Study	2 10:30 Staff Mtg. 5:00 Christ. Ed & Y&M Mtg. 6:00 Confirmation 7:30 10th Gr. Confirmands Mtg.	3 9:00 Rummage Sale Set-up 1:00 Brain Injury Support Group	4 9:00 Rummage Sale Set-up	5 Fall Rummage Sale 8:00am until 2:00pm
6 9:30 Worship with Communion, Baptism, 3rd Graders receive a Bible 10:30 Coffee Fellowship	7 9:00 Lefse	8 9:00 Quilting 10:00 Text Study 5:30 Church Council Mtg.	9 10:30 Staff Mtg. 6:00 Confirmation	10	11	12
13 9:30 Worship with Baptism 10:00 Sunday School with Blessing of the Animals Outside 10:30 Coffee Fellowship Outside 10:30 WELCA	14 9:00 Lefse	15 9:00 Quilting 10:00 Conference Pastors Mtg.	16 10:30 Staff Mtg. No Confirmation	17 1:30 Coloring, Coffee & Conversation (Library)	18	19
20 9:30 Worship No Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 3:00 Lutefisk & Meatball Supper	21	22 9:00 Quilting 10:00 Text Study	23 10:30 Staff Mtg. 6:00 Confirmation AND Faith Expression Banquet (10th Gr. Confirmands)	24 10:00 Basement carpet cleaning	25 4:00 Spire Newsletter Deadline	26 9:00 The "Piecemakers" Quilt Retreat at Retreat Ctr.— Bring your own project & snack. Lunch provided
27 9:30 Worship with Communion & Confirmation 10:00 Sun. School 10:30 Coffee & FC #2 Mtg. 6:30 Trunk or Treat Street @ Our Saviors	28	29 9:00 Quilting 10:00 Text Study	30 10:30 Staff Mtg. 6:00 Confirmation	31		November 2 EaND Synod Fall Gathering: Spirit Lake Conference: November 2, 1pm-3pm @ St. Olaf Lutheran, Devils Lake