



SPIRE

JULY 2025

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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Pastor Lori Pankratz

Email: lorip@gondtc.com

Darci Gilbertson

Office & Financial Secretary

Kirk Sweeney, Custodian

Dan Nybo, Organist



**Join us at 7:30pm Wednesdays:
June 25—July 23—August 13
with Our Savior's Lutheran Church
to sing, worship & eat s'mores
around the campfire at
St. Olaf Retreat Center**



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

May General Fund Expenses

Auto Exp	195.40
BCBS Exp	1,105.10
Church Supplies	177.01
Confirmation Exp	69.12
Convention Exp	205.00
Custodian HIR	250.00
Otter Tail Power	699.00
Envelope Giving Exp	41.17
MDU	749.00
Insurance Exp	1,626.80
Maintenance Exp	127.68
Office Equip. Exp.....	418.29
Office Supplies	145.83
Pastor Housing	1,533.34
Pastor Soc. Sec. Allow ...	461.56
Payroll Exp.	472.90
Pension/Ins. Exp.....	3,298.95
Postage Exp.....	136.86
Retreat Ctr. Ins.	150.00
City of DL	145.94
Special Gifts—Out	76.31
Dockside Activity:	41.00
Pr. Lori CC:	35.31
Sunday School Exp	106.64
Telephone/Internet.....	473.65
Vocal Director Exp.....	250.00
Worship Supplies	330.81
Wages	10,556.77

Total Expenses: \$23,803.13
Total Income: \$15,017.12

Retreat Center Fund May Expenses

Guide One Insurance ..	150.00
Nodak.....	6.00
Greater Ramsey Water .	40.00
MDU.....	126.52
DL Glass & Paint	113.38

Total Expenses.....\$435.90



July 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 July is **Campus Ministries:** ELCA campus ministry is a Lutheran ministry for students, faculty, staff and others on campus. We are a church this is energized by lively engagement in our faith and life and the mission of campus ministry is to invite people in academic setting to engage more deeply with the teaching of Jesus Christ and fulfill their vocation as disciples.

Eastern ND Synod has 2 campus ministries:



Crossroads Campus
Ministry at NDSU



and Christus Rex
at UND.

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

- Quilting will continue through the summer months as always. Everyone is invited to come and help. There are several tasks to choose from. We also enjoy a nice coffee fellowship.
- At our June meeting, Jean Aardahl was in charge of the program. She invited Maddie Sharpe from the Lake Region Public Library to tell us about the happenings at the library. Thank you, Jean, for the great program.
- Our Executive Committee met with Corrina and the EaND Board on June 14th to plan for the Fall Convention. St. Olaf will be hosting on September 13th. Thanks to all who attended and to Loretta for the goodies for coffee fellowship.
- Enjoy your summer recess in July. Our next meeting will be Thursday, Aug. 7th at 1:30 p.m. Hope to see you there.

God's Blessings, Myrna

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
June 1	45	46	\$3,825.00	\$25.00	\$227.00
June 8	36	34	\$3,711.00		\$186.00
June 15	43	58	\$2,798.00	\$10.00	\$638.00
June 22	38	34	\$1,885.00		\$699.85

Electronic Giving for MAY (26 Households): \$3,640.00

FAITH MATTERS;

~ Pastor Lori ~

Warm days, cool nights, fireflies, shooting stars, bare legs, iced tea, watermelon, sweet corn, and swimming — all summer long, God lingers around every corner, in the shade of every tree, around every campfire. To make the most of this season, here's an invitation to be as intentional as possible about savoring the wonders of summer — and growing closer to the One who makes it so sweet! So try these tasty summer practices, and add your own to the list:

- + As the summer evenings come, go for a walk with God in the cool of the day. If this primordial form of meditative enjoyment was good enough for God (see Genesis 3:8), it's good enough for all of us!
- + Go barefoot with Moses. You don't need a burning bush or an embossed invitation to set those tootsies free. Take a walk around in your backyard, a local park, or farther afield- shoes optional — it's all holy ground!
- + Whether it's big-back-yard gardening or community garden gardening or little-window-boxes gardening or something in between, we were created to till and to keep the earth (Genesis 2), to plant flowers and eat cherry tomatoes right off the vine.
- + Take a Wifiatus! =Wifi + hiatus
- + On an especially hot day, get five ingredients: water, lemons, sugar, ice, and a few mint leaves. Mix to taste, find a shady spot and some tall glasses, and enjoy!
- + Get to know one of God's amazing creatures, in person or online. The spider in the closet, the chicken in the neighbor's yard, or a sea lion in the surf! Pick a creature, and then learn at least five amazing facts about it before the sun goes down!
- + Say a special prayer for peace in our homes, and in particular, for people experiencing domestic violence. Challenging times plus hot weather makes tempers flare... (from Salt Project Blog)

Celebrating the 10th Anniversary Of Ordination



← Bishop Tessa Moon Leith recognized Pr. Lori's 10th Anniversary at the Synod Assembly.

→ St. Olaf celebrated Pr. Lori's 10 Yr. Ordination Anniversary June 15



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.*

**“Fishers of
Men”
Bible Study
Saturdays
7:00am
At White House
Café**

June Church Council Minutes

The St. Olaf Lutheran Church council met on June 10, 2025.

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

Absent: Michael Kitsch, Kristi Trottier

President Dave Oehlke called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Pastor Lori opened with a devotion and a prayer.

The minutes of the May 2025 council meeting were reviewed. Anne moved to accept the minutes. Evan seconded. The minutes were approved.

Arne Berg presented the Treasurer's report. Balances as of May 31, 2025 - Designated Funds: \$89,731.64; General Fund: \$4709.04; Contingency Fund: ≈ \$20,000. Darci reported that money will be needed to meet upcoming payroll. Arne moved to transfer \$2000.00 from the Contingency fund to the General fund to meet payroll. Louise seconded. The motion was approved.

Pastor Lori's report was reviewed. Pastor Lori highlighted the three S'mores Campfire Worship which will be held at the Retreat Center at 7:30 pm on June 25, July 23, and August 13. She informed the council of her upcoming vacation plans. She is currently lining up leaders to fill in on three Sunday worship services, two in July and one in August.

Christian Education and Youth & Family Ministry: Anne reported these two committees did not meet in June but have a meeting planned for July.

Church Properties: Evan reported that Bergstrom Electric replaced the outdated thermostats and did other work in the church building at a cost of \$2761.91. Louise moved to pay Bergstrom Electric from the Contingency fund. Anne seconded. The motion was approved. Evan and Darci are waiting for a price estimate from Bergstrom Electric for replacing the dimmer board and replacing halogen bulbs with LED bulbs in the sanctuary.

Life in Ministry & Mission: Louise did not have a report for this month.

No report from Stewardship. No report from Worship & Music as there are no members on this committee.

Unfinished Business: The following items were discussed - thermostats and sanctuary lighting (previously reported under Church Properties), adjusting locks or purchasing new locks for the main doors at the church building and at the retreat center, women's bathroom updates to be paid for by WELCA. Evan will gather information about different door locks and follow up with the council.

New Business: The next council meeting will be held on August 12, 2025. The council will not meet in July. The Sons of Norway asked if they needed to pay a fee for using the Retreat Center. Since they already pay a facilities rent to St. Olaf, an additional fee is not needed for Retreat Center use. A recommendation came

from WELCA to support a camp counselor at Red Willow Bible Camp or Park River Bible Camp. WELCA will donate \$500, and they will challenge the Men's Club to do the same. Anne moved to take \$750.00 from the Noisy Offering Youth fund to add to the donations from WELCA and the Men's Club to reach a Team Builder sponsorship level of \$1750.00. Louise seconded. The motion was approved.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Colette Boehmer

VBS 2025



**June 9-12
At Ruger Park**



Faith & Care Group #3—July 2025

Duaine Ash
 Lisa Bachmeier
 Robert Banet, Bailee, Caleb
 Roxanne & Mike Barendt, Morgan, Hannah
 Rodney Bennes
 Terry & Beth Black, Molly, Elle, Charly
 Judy Borgen
 Zachary & Samantha Bounds, Hudsynn,
 Kayson, Madalynn
 Jared & Deann Brown, Ellen, Emma
 Jon & Cindy Brown, Drew, Casey, Reagan,
 Bailey
 Gene & Melissa Burkhard, Brady, Toby
 Paulette Clemenson
 Kermit & Glenna Garske
 Judy Hager
 Leonard Jemtrud
 Dona Krahler, Jady & Zachary
 Amber Lara
 Richard Mahoney
 Brandon & Kelsey Mertens, Holden, Leightyn,
 Gannon
 Don Mertens, Ryan

Duane Moen
 Kent & Hayley Ness, Ty
 Chuck & Barb Olson
 Linda Olson
 Derrick & Holly Owens, Alexander
 Stella Papachek
 Jacqueline Peterson, Jesse
 Myrna Peterson
 Harry Pflaum
 Mabel Rabadeaux
 Bonnie Rader, James
 Anne Rasmusson, David, Blake
 Marlene & Dana Salisbury
 Cory & Tobey Schall, Austin, Alyssa
 Shannon & Don Senger, Preston
 Valerie Skadsem
 Nicole Tollefson, Austin
 Kristi Trottier & Travis Pflaum
 George Wang & Ericka Eversvik, Blake
 Orville & Audrey Wang, Autumn
 Nancy Watt
 Kristi Ystaas

Faith & Care Group #4—August 2025

Carly & Jesse Braathen, Riley, Tommy,
 Bodey
 Wade & Rebecca Christianson, Cayden,
 Ethan
 Lisa Craddock, Charles
 Robert Dahl
 John & Kim Dahlen, Cassandra &
 Christopher
 Eric & Crystal Eversvik, Gannon, Bryer,
 Delaine, Amelia
 Tammy Fischer, Garrett, John, Michael
 Steven & Evonne Geigle, Kade, Micah
 Dale Giedd & Loretta Bloomquist
 Rob Hendrickson
 Ken Hunt
 Jason & Amber Hunter, Gabriella, Ryder,
 Hudson
 Kristen Johnson, Chase
 Jan Johnson, Brittany & Kayla
 Jerry & Kara Johnson, Jeremiah

Mike & Kristina Kuntz, Jack & Mallory
 Kathy Lovseth
 Richard Lybeck
 Doris Michaels
 Vernon Moen
 Charles & Helen Nelson
 Robert Nelson & Marte Stensli, Mathea &
 Liam
 Louise Oleson
 Judy Ovre
 Mark & Kristel Peterson, Craig, Kelsey
 Becky Reierson, Maria, Isabelle
 Betty Jane Rushfeldt
 Tyler & Emily Schiele, Kynlee, Tucker, Bo
 Sheldon Severtson
 Helen Simon
 Kyle Sletteland
 Ray & Judy Strong
 Janice Thompson

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:

Gordon & Ilene Fugle from
 Myrna Unger
**Charles Dahl (Sarah Crowe's
 father)** from Florene Rogne

CONTINGENCY FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

**Perry, Dwight and Andy Horn-
 er** from Myrna Unger

WINDOWS FUND

Given in MEMORY of:

Sue Feickert from Kitty Overbo

Grief Lectionary is June 24 and July 1, 8, 15, & 22 at 2 pm at Our Savior's

No matter where you are on your journey with grief or who or what you are grieving, you are invited to take part in the Grief Lectionary. Gather to access and process your grief, as well as listen to expressions of grief as told in both the Old and New Testaments. We close with a blessing. The Grief Lectionary was put together by Rev. Collete, a pastor in the ELCA, out of her own experience with grief, to both comfort and challenge others in their grief. It is not therapy, but you may find it therapeutic.



**David Moe
 Gary Ertmann**

 <h1>JULY</h1> 						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 8:00 Blood Drive @Memorial Bldg. 9:00 Quilting 10:30 Text Study	2 10:30 Staff Mtg.	3	4 Closed 	5 7:00am Bible Study at Whitehouse Café
6* 8:30 Worship at RC w/Baptism 9:30 Coffee at the Retreat Center 10:00 Coffee at St. Olaf 11:00 Worship at St. Olaf	7	8 9:00 Quilting 10:30 Text Study No Council	9 10:30 Staff Mtg.	10	11	12 7:00am Bible Study at Whitehouse Café
13 8:30 Worship at Retreat Center 9:30 Coffee at the Retreat Center 10:00 Coffee at St. Olaf 11:00 Worship at St. Olaf	14 12:00 Sons of Norway Mtg.	15 9:00 Quilting	16 10:30 Staff Mtg.	17	18	19 7:00am "Fishers of Men" Bible Study at Whitehouse Cafe
20* 8:30 Worship at Retreat Center 9:30 Coffee at the Retreat Center 10:00 Coffee at St. Olaf 11:00 Worship at St. Olaf	21	22 9:00 Quilting 10:30 Text Study 5:30 Christian Ed & Youth & Family Ministry Meeting	23 10:30 Staff Mtg. 7:30 S'more Worship at the Retreat Ctr.	24	25 4:00 Spire newsletter deadline 5:00 Wedding Rehearsal	26 7:00am Bible Study at Whitehouse 4:00 Christopher Shepherd & Emily Eback Wedding
27 8:30 Worship at Retreat Center 9:30 Coffee at the Retreat Center 10:00 Coffee at St. Olaf w/FC #4 Meeting 11:00 Worship at St. Olaf	28	29 9:00 Quilting	30	31		