

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Salt Shaker

You are welcome at Our Savior's, where we're all about
"connecting people to God, people to people, and people to mission."

Quarter 3 - Fall 2025

Address

612 14th Ave NE
Devils Lake, ND 58301

Office Telephone

701-662-5112

Office hours 9-3pm, M-H,
9-Noon Fridays

Building hours 9am-5pm, M-H,
9am - Noon Fridays,
scheduled evening events.

**If a need for pastoral care
arises outside of office or
building hours, please call or
text the pastor's mobile,
701-381-2569.**

Website:

www.oursaviorsdevilslake.org

Facebook:

Our Savior's Lutheran Church of
Devils Lake, ND



Members and Friends of Our Savior's,

There's a lot I could pack into this article: my gratitude to you for calling me nearly five years ago and allowing me to grow as a pastor; my encouragement to keep following the lead of the Holy Spirit (she's up to some amazing things with the people of Our Savior's); my hope that you will continue to discern new ways of being in ministry as the church and the world change; my assurance that no matter what happens, God's church is very much so alive because YOU are called by a living and loving God.

But the truth is there is too much to fit into this brief newsletter article.

Instead, know that I treasure you - each of you! - whether we got to know one another well, or not yet. It has been my honor to walk alongside you, whether we were celebrating a baptism, communion, confirmation, or wedding, or grieving a loss. It has been my joy to worship with you in the special seasons and in the ordinary too.

Though your pastoral leadership may be different in the coming months, the ministry continues. Remember your baptismal promises. Keep finding ways to connect with one another in beloved community. Keep growing in trust and nurturing faith in others. Keep sharing your peace and joy with the world and working for justice and peace. I'll be doing the same, just a location a little further south.

Until we meet again, "The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon with favor and give you peace" (Number 6:24-26). Amen.

Pastor JoHanna

P.S. If you're ever in Cornhusker territory, stop by. I've love to catch up. But fair warning: it's all about college ball (and the Chiefs) in that neck of the woods.

Celebrating the Mission We Share!



We worshiped with our friends from St. Olaf at three different campfire services throughout the summer, and had a fun week with counselors from Red Willow and Park River for Vacation Bible School!



We celebrated the 4th of July with a float in the parade!



We celebrated June, July, August, and September birthdays on the first Sunday of each month. .



We welcomed guests for the annual Devils Run Pancake Breakfast with pancakes, sausage, coffee, water, and the invitational spirit of Our Savior's!

Worship

Worship with Us!

Worship service are on Sunday at 10am and Wednesday at 6 pm (on full school days only), with Holy Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month and the Wednesdays prior.

Confirmation Service

On October 26, we will celebrate as 14 young people from our congregation affirm their faith and are commissioned to serve in the church and in the world using their various gifts.

All Saints Service

On November 2, we will remember and give thanks for all the saints in our lives, including the saints who have gone before us. We will name those in our church family who have passed in the last year, and provide an opportunity for you to name those you know personally.

Stories of Generosity

When Curtis & Linda Jabs came to see me (Pastor JoHanna) with a decorative beer can full of change, I couldn't wait to hear their story. Curtis went on to tell me about what happens when he spots a coin on the ground: He picks it up and remembers that it's going to be a good day. Over the course of several years, Curtis has had a lot of "good days." And on the summer day that he came to see me, he wanted to share the coins he had collected to others could also have a good day. Curtis and Linda multiplied his donation of coins so that, through the church, this community could have REALLY good days. Thank you for your generosity, Curtis & Linda!



As congregation members and friends go through their possessions, Rose Rockvov has been there to take them to the next step. In August, she held another Rummage Sale at her garage, with the proceeds going to the church. Countless hours went into organizing, pricing, advertizing, and selling. We're grateful for all the layers of generosity - from donating to selling - that benefit the ministries of Our Savior's and the mission of the church!



Faith Formation

Wednesday School (PK-6)

meets Wednesdays at 3:45
for a snack, songs, story,
and activities.

Wednesday School does
not meet on early out days.

Sunday School

meets Sundays at 8:45
for a breakfast snack,
songs, story, and activities.
does not meet on Sundays of
vacation weekends more than three
days long.

Confirmation

leads the Worship on Wednesday,
and then meets for a Core
Learning Event, Service Activity, or
Faith & Fun Night. Our schedule is
available on our website.

Youth Group

joins confirmation students in
leading Worship on Wednesdays,
service activities, and faith and fun
nights.

Bible Milestone Class

The Bible Milestone Class is Sunday, October 5 at 1:30pm. This class is designed for readers, typically 5th grade and above, though anyone who would like a refresher on Bible basics is invited to come. We'll cover a brief history of the Bible, a what's-in-it, and how-to-read with games and activities. At the end of the milestone, students will be presented with a Bible. Please RSVP to Pastor JoHanna by October 3 at (701) 381-2569 or pastor@oursaviorsdevilslake.org

Help Needed!

When our Wednesday and Sunday School students arrive, we need trusted adults to greet them and serve them snack until their teachers are ready. This would be great activity for a retired member or grandparent figures.

Commitments are on Wednesdays, 3-4pm, to set up snack and greet the kids as they arrive, and Sunday mornings to do the same, from 8-9am.

Our greatest need is for a team that could cover Wednesdays. Please contact Pastor JoHanna if you can help on a rotating basis.



Community Care & Connection

Christmas Rummage & Lefse Sale



November 8, we will have a Christmas Rummage & Lefse Sale. Volunteers are needed to prepare and and make Lefse. Sign-up for the following dates and times at the Welcome Desk or by scanning the QR Code: Oct. 10, 5:30-8:30pm (Preparing); Oct. 11 8:00am - 2:00pm (Making); Oct. 17, 5:30-8:30pm (Preparing); and Oct. 18, 8:00am - 2:00pm (Making). Additionally, Christmas items may be dropped off for the rummage sale during open hours and placed into the corner storage room.



Trick-Or-Treat Street



Our annual Trick-Or-Treat Street is October 26. Get your friends together, come up with a theme, and save a doorway to decorate! Sign-up at the welcome desk or scan the QR Code. We anticipate 250 - 300 people coming through to receive treats. Decorating begins at 4pm. Doors open at 6:30.



Confirmation Students Collecting Winter & Hygiene Items for those in Need

For their confirmation project, a group of students is organizing a collection for for those in need this winter season. hey are collecting new or gently used winter gear, as well as new toiletry items. Donations may be dropped off at the church, where the bin is lcoated just inside the front door, to to First Community Credit Union, or AgCountry. They will collect items up to October 15. Together, we can make this winter a litter warmer for everyone!



Community Care & Connection

We  love
having you as part of our *flock*

 Keep in touch
with us via
email & text

- Choose to get updates from groups you're interested in
- Unsubscribe anytime, no spam we promise

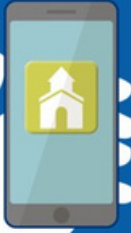
Text OURSAVIORLIVES to 84576

Flocknote

Flocknote is our primary digital communications platform. We use it send out text messages, emails, sign-ups, and weekly e-blasts, as well as to organize our families and groups. Text OURSAVIORLIVES to 84576 to be included in these communications. We promise, no SPAM, and you can always opt out.

VIEW OUR
**CHURCH
DIRECTORY**
ON YOUR MOBILE
DEVICE!

FREE App for iPhone, iPad
& Android



Our church directory is a great resource tool that allows you to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church Directory*  and download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.

Instant Church Directory

Instant Church Directory is our online pictorial directory.

Our membership database is up-to-date with current contact information. Members can add or update their own information (including a photo) after creating a login. If you have an email address, please follow the directions to the left to set up access to the online directory. If you need assistance accessing the online directory, please contact Deb Follman.

A printed pictorial directory is available upon request - just call the office ahead of time and Vicki can prepare it for you. A free-will offering is encouraged to offset the cost of in-house printing.

Nametags

When we gather for worship or other events, we invite you wear a nametag so that we can call you by the RIGHT name! If you don't have. nameta but would like one, sign-up at the desk outside the sanctuary and RaShell will make one for you. You nametag may be kept at that same desk in the slotted holder that Ed Shimmin made.

HELLO
MY NAME IS

Gratitude & Generosity

Thank You!

We give thanks for the following donations and gifts shared with the church:

- Rose Rockvov for all her work on her rummage sales benefiting the church
- Our painting crews that came in and painted rooms (Karen Hunt, Deb Cole, Becky Larson, Chad Hunt, Peter Foss, Deb Follman, Joycelyn Hagen)
- Brian Sowatzki for all the cleaning he has done
- Dave & JoAnn Heisler for taking on cleaning the church Thursday mornings
- Deb Follman for taking on numerous tasks. Including, but not limited to, updating our directory, creating and sending our weekly E-blasts, and putting up creative bulletin boards throughout the halls and classrooms.

Memorials

Memorials given to the Ministry (General) Fund in memory of:

Glenn Olson by Gordy & Paula Schmid, Emil & Darlene Schoenfish, Rita Olson, Babe Johnson Ed & Barb Shimmin, Paula Ramsey

Nancy Kuntz by Ed and Barb Shimmin, Lola Schlieve, Stan and Sharon Orness, Chad and Karen Hunt, Lee Christofferson, Jerry and Daria Mille

Wilbert Gutschmidt by Eric & Sue Lysne & Bonnie Hagen

Nelda Langton by Stan & Sharon Orness, Bruce & Bev Bonzer, Jerome & Lori Hahn, James & Janet Bauman, Merle Langton (Nelda Langton Estate)

Ministry Fund

Our general, or operating fund, supports our regular expenses related to doing ministry together. This includes things like our lights and heat, music licenses and communion supplies, paper and management software, and wages for staff, including benefits for our pastor. These funds are separate from any designated funds, and are reflected in our annual budget.

As of August 31, our undesignated general offering was \$86,588. Our budgeted income is approximately \$16,000 per month, or \$128,000 year to August 31.

Building Fund

The building fund is designated for building projects and improvement. The current balance as of August 31 in the account is **\$19,904.59**

Love Fund

The love fund is used at the discretion of the pastor when a need is made known. This quarter, no requests have been made, therefore our current balance remains **\$190**.

From your Council & Staff

Update from Pastor JoHanna

Pastor JoHanna has accepted a new call in Nebraska. This lands her closer to her family. Her last Sunday is November 2, and last day in the office is November 5. The Synod is working with our congregational council on the next steps. While she is sad to leave Our Savior's, she is grateful for the ministry we have engaged with together.

Council Meeting Summaries

A summary of discussion topics and action-items from recent council meetings are listed below. Full council meeting minutes are available for pick-up in the church office.

June 9, 2025

The sound system arrived in Minot - will be picked up next week. Does not include new microphones. RaShell Bye made a motion to approve a check to DC Entertainment for \$3,447.74 to pay for the sound system. Pastor JoHanna seconded the motion. Motion carried. Peter Foss got an estimate of \$6,000.00 to repair the bump in the floor in the front of the sanctuary. Looking at other options for flooring or carpet replacement, if needed. Devils Run breakfast made \$2,013.00. Discussion on nametags and float for the 4th of July parade. Discussion on how to pay for postage for celebration cards that go out - Thrivent Action Grant may be a possibility.

July 14, 2025

Edie Johnson presented requests from the Dream Team, including painting and redecorating classrooms, and hosting a Lefsa sale on Nov. 8, with half the proceeds split 50-50 between General Fund and the Dream Team. Pastor will contact Amber Nelson to see what we all need to do to update website. The decision to have it done was tabled until January for financial reasons. RaShell Bye is organizing nametags. Parsonage tree has died and needs to be removed. Chad will contact Randy Bracken about removing it. Pastor JoHanna shared that Red Willow is requesting sponsorships to support their summer staff. RaShell Bye made a motion to use the noisy change fund to send the "Staff Friend" level donation of \$500. Linda Brusven seconded. Motion carried.

Staff

Pastor
Rev. JoHanna Buchholz
pastor@oursaviorsdevilslake.org

Office Manager
Vicki Smith
office@oursaviorsdevilslake.org

OSLC Council

Linda Brusven

Pastor JoHanna Buchholz

RaShell Bye

Peter Foss

Chad Hunt

John Martin

Luke Wasness

Cotinued from previous pages

Council Meeting Summaries, continued

August 18, 2025

Cost of a website redesign is \$1,500, with \$750 paid to start, and the remaining \$750 when completed. Her fee to maintain the site once it's completed would be \$40/hour. Deb Follman has volunteered to maintain the site once it has been updated. RaShell Bye made a motion to approve updating the website. Pastor JoHanna seconded the motion. Motion carried. The sound system is all here. Peter need time to complete installation. Discussion on the sanctuary floor bumps. Tabled until we get the sound system up and running. We will host Pastor Brad Skogen on February 1, 2026. We will have a breakfast on September 7th at 8:30 for the Fall kick off prepared by the men. It will be a free will donation. Chad has purchased offering envelopes for those who wish to have them. They will be placed out so people can take what they want.

September 15, 2025

Our new sound system is completely here. Peter will get it installed as time permits. Our website is being revised for a newer and more user friendly look. Amber Nelson is working on it. We have started using name tags. Ed Shimmin will make a holder for them for those who wish to leave them at the church. The French Toast feed raised \$499.00. One of our furnaces needs to be replaced. The cost will be \$4,000 to replace or \$1,200 plus labor cost to repair. After discussion Chad Hunt motioned to replace the furnace. Pastor JoHanna seconded the motion. Motion carried. Brian Sowatzki will no longer be cleaning at the church. Discussion was held for options of relief for Chad. We will look into doing some type of "adopt a room" for cleaning.

Next Meeting is Monday, October 13 at 5pm

Thank You!, continued

- Todd & Lynn Thompson for donating the paint for our classrooms.
- Randy Bracken and his crew for removing the dead tree at the parsonage.
- Everyone who volunteered and helped to make the Devils Run pancake breakfast a success.
- The team that put together the Fourth of July parade float and rode along to pass out candy.

Wahwahwah

Our
Savior's
Lutheran Church
612 14th Ave NE, Devils Lake, ND 58301

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