



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
326 Leroy St  
Audubon, IA 50025

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**PAID**  
Audubon, Iowa  
Permit No. 75



## We are looking forward to the entire OSLC community+ gathering for the Season of Advent and celebrating Christmas together too!

Sunday — 12/1 — 9am

Wednesday — 12/4 Dinner @ 6pm & Worship with Community Choirs

Sunday — 12/8 — 9am

Wednesday — 12/11 Dinner @ 6pm & Worship

Sunday — 12/15 — 9am

Wednesday — 12/18 Dinner @ 6pm & Worship

Sunday — 12/22 — 9am

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**4:00pm & 6:30pm**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**10:00am**



Chris Townsend, Intentional Interim Pastor ..... [oslpastor@protonmail.com](mailto:oslpastor@protonmail.com)  
Currently Volunteers, Administrative Assistant ..... [oslc@oslcauduboniowa.org](mailto:oslc@oslcauduboniowa.org)  
Church Office: Monday—Thursday 9am—3pm  
Phone: 712-588-1113 Emergency contact: 209.263.1170

**The Shepherd Staff** is the monthly newsletter of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and is published for the **members** and **friends** of Our Saviour's, which has been bearing the fruit of the Holy Spirit in Audubon and the surrounding communities since 1909! OSLC strives to reach out and minister to our members, our community, and the world!

# The *Shepherd Staff*

# November 2024

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church • 326 Leroy St • Audubon, IA 50025 • 712-588-1113 • [oslcauduboniowa.org](http://oslcauduboniowa.org)

**OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN IS A BIBLE-BASED CHURCH**



## Good News! Great Joy!

*Pack a box. Impact a life.*

See article on next page!



**Thanksgiving Baskets**  
Each basket costs \$35 and contains all the fixings for a Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner for six. With your help, the Audubon Area Ministerial Association, in cooperation with New Opportunities, will distribute 40 baskets to families who are in need of assistance. If you would like to donate, make checks payable to OSLC and put "Thanksgiving Baskets" on memo line and drop off in the Office or place in the offering plate by Sunday, November 17.

## "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"

Who said this? Well, it was non-other than the Apostle Paul's exclamation (2 Cor. 9:15) upon hearing the Corinthian church's response to the preaching of the Good News of Jesus the Christ, and his request for support for the church in Jerusalem. The Christians in Corinth heard and then received God's mercy through the Messiah, and they responded to Paul's call to support Christians in Jerusalem with an offering. The Corinthians' joyful giving filled Jerusalem's need. This is the reality of stewardship.


Because of God's generosity in the giving of His Son to die on the cross for us, we are called to be generous with all that we receive from Him. What do we receive? Everything! All that we are, and all that we have, is the Lord's. He is the Creator and the Giver of all life. We are His created and those who receive what He gives. It sounds easy doesn't it. And it is!! But then again it isn't...

Stewardship is easy because it is God's work. Through what God gives, we are called to give to His Church and others. Through what God gives, we support the work of the Church, for the local community as well as the regional and international Christian community. He gives... we receive... we give. And like our generous Father in Heaven, we, as Our Saviour's children, use what He gives to us to love and serve others. ALL IN HIS NAME!!!

But stewardship is also challenging. That is because, for some of us, it goes against our natural inclination to think that what I have is mine (*time, talents, treasures*) to do what I want with. This is often referred to as: our sinful nature that involves selfishness and greed. How can we, who have been given everything: life, food, clothing, shelter, home, forgiveness, the blessing of being Children of our Saviour, an eternal inheritance — sometimes be a bit tight with our *time and talents*? For if God has given us His Son, will He not give us all the things we need? Yes. He will!!

Theologically, Martin Luther shared that God provides everything we need for this body, this life, and for the life that is to come. Can I hear an AMEN! And what is a joyful thing to do? *Hebrews 12:1-2* shares: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God." Thanks be to God for His *indescribable* gifts that we personally enjoy and corporately are blessed with through being *Saints In Service* at Our Saviour's Lutheran.

Intentional Interim, Pastor Chris



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

**NOVEMBER 3**

We will be remembering Brothers and Sisters in Christ who have died in the faith this past year and now are at rest from their labors. **All Saints Day** is a celebration of the whole victorious Church in Heaven, who will come with Jesus when He returns (*1 Thess. 4*). You are invited to participate during worship as we light candles in memory of loved ones.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

Every year, Operation Christmas Child delivers millions of shoebox gifts to children around the world. Shoebox gifts bring Good News and Great Joy to many children!

For the 24<sup>th</sup> year, OSLC Confirmation students, Sunday School children, and OSLC members are collecting and packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

**Last year OSLC packed a record of 161 Christmas shoeboxes!**

Please bring donated items to OSLC by Sunday morning, November 10. Confirmation students/mentors will pack boxes, **BUT YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN THE FUN!**

**November 10 at 11:15am with lunch provided.**

Questions? Contact OSLC coordinators Norma Nielsen, Raydene Mathisen or Danielle Derry. See display in the Lobby for more info or go to [samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanspurse.org/occ)

**ALL Hands on Deck**

**as we Deck the Halls** *(Church that is)*

**We need your help on November 24!**

**Let's join together to decorate OSLC!**

**Advent is coming up quick!**

**We start Advent on Sunday, December 1.**

**BUT first, let's deck the halls by decorating our wonderful campus! We will start right after worship (coffee & treats first!)**

**OSLC Maintenance Super Saints**

Are you a *Super Saint* that can help with one or more of the tasks below? If so, sign up in the Lobby indicating you'll get er done and complete it sometime during November as we give thanks for people like yourself stepping up and stepping in as *Saints in Service* by keeping the entire campus in shape!

- Vacuum pew pads
- Clean Sanctuary Windows (inside & out)
- Clean Lobby, Offices, & Stairwell Windows (inside & out)
- Wipe down frames of Chapel chairs
- Wipe down & tighten all handrails
- Clean windows (inside & out) & blinds in down-stairs Fellowship Hall
- Clean & organize downstairs kitchen as needed including refrigerator, cooler, & freezer
- Clean the exterior stairwell of gymnasium
- Cleaning ALL tables & chairs in downstairs Fellowship Hall
- Deep & Detail cleaning of ALL bathrooms



**November's Blessings**

**3:** Chelle & Jeff Madsen ~ In memory of Valetta Jensen

**10:** Janet Weber ~

**17:** Marlo & Terry Sunberg ~ In memory of loved ones

**24:** Shellie & Paul Madsen ~ In memory of loved ones

*Caring & Sharing*

**CHRISTMAS BOXES**

Donations needed of boxed pancake mix (just add water) & pancake syrup (plastic bottles only)

Bring to OSLC by Sunday, December 1st!

**DONATIONS OF NONPERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS, PAPER PRODUCTS AND MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!**

**November**

**Saints In Service**

**GREETERS**

3- Raydene & Steve Mathisen

10- Deanna & Jeff Jacobsen

17- Toni & Kurt Nelson

24- Nancy & Daryl Olsen

**ACOLYTES**

3- Kam King

Alex Eldal

10- Layne Slater

Tyler Ellingson

17- Kadi Burger

Brooklynn Williamson

24- Ushers

**READERS**

3- Wes Thygesen

10- Dan Bierbrodt

17- Megan Kjergaard

24- "BTC" Member

**COFFEE SERVERS**

3- Sharolyn Fett

Cindy Vokt

10- Polly Weiti

Delrene Greve

17- Troy Hagedorn

Monica Hagedorn

24- Barbi Elmquist

Sandy Parsons

**USHERS**

Bill Moore, Captain

Tim Anderson

Brandon Hansen

Karson Hansen

Dean Lauritsen

Kurt Nelson

Cliff Nelson

Myles Nielsen

**SOUND**

3- Logan Nielsen

10- Jim Dick

17- Volunteer Needed

24- Jim Dick

**PROJECTION/STREAMING**

3- Curtis Derry

10- Raydene Mathisen

17- Raydene Mathisen

24- Lori Applegate

**ALTAR GUILD**

Cindy Vokt

Laurie Gilbert

**November Communion Assistants:**

3- Chris & Dan Schmidt, Wes Thygesen

17- Judy Baker, Megan Kjergaard, Barb Jacobsen

**OCTOBER COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS**

- Accepted all reports, some submitted electronically
- Approved minutes from the September 18, 2024, Council Meeting as presented
- Accepted financial overview
- Approved Advent 2024 mid-week offering to go to LCMC's Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund (hurricane victims)
- Reengaged in discussion regarding placement of Pastor Dan's memorial
- Discussed to finalize Administrative Assistant position through electronic communication/approval
- Discussed Bookkeeper position, set meeting w/ candidate
- Set November 19, 2024 as next Council meeting

**SEPTEMBER 30, 2024 FINANCIAL SNAP SHOT**

Budget Weekly Need, General Funds Income	\$ 6,433
General Offering Fund Income (5 Sundays)	\$ 24,133
General Budgeted Expenses	\$ 27,563
General Fund Bank Balance	\$ 23,963
YTD Budget (39 weeks)	\$250,887
YTD General Fund Expenses	\$224,013
YTD General Offerings	\$205,292

**2025 Committee Budgets**

**Due in Office by November 4**

**2024 Committee Annual Reports**

**Due in Office by December 16**

**DESIGNATED FUNDS**

*(as of September 30)*

Special Funds (other)	\$ 39
Christmas Dinner	\$ 425
Future Needs	\$ 510
Youth Group	\$ 790
Education Fund	\$ 816
Other Benevolence	\$ 1,057
Scholarship	\$(1,421)
Praise Band	\$ 1,859
Operation Motorcycle Mercy	\$ 2,449
Chimney Tuck Pointing	\$(3,260)
Church Camp	\$ 3,962
Mission Outreach	\$ 8,838
Memorial Fund	\$31,752
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$47,819</b>

**Designated Certificate of Deposits (CD)**

*(as of September 30)*

Loan Sec (matures 3.27.25)	\$ 10,000
Ed. Fund (matures 4.7.25)	\$ 21,135
CD 9362 (matures 10.3.24)	\$ 25,000
CD 9361 (matures 10.3.24)	\$145,000