



The Shepherd Staff

August 2025

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church • 326 Leroy St • Audubon, IA 50025 • 712-588-1113 • oslcauduboniowa.org

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN IS A BIBLE-BASED CHURCH

"Your word is a lamp to walk by, and a light to illumine my path." – Psalm 119:105 (NET)

"Stepping Lightly"

I didn't expect to share in a therapy session this week. I thought I was stopping in for a visit, a word of encouragement, a prayer. Instead, I was welcomed into the work of healing — a holy moment disguised in ordinary time.

I went to visit a friend at the hospital but her therapist was already present, guiding her carefully. They both laughed and welcomed me, as I watched my friend move her legs, sometimes painfully. At first, I felt like an intruder. But then something small, almost unnoticed, shifted. I saw her bag sitting on a nearby table, just out of reach. She has led countless Bible studies in her life and I began to wonder if her Bible was inside. She has opened God's Word for others again and again, shaping faith and our community. But in today's moment, this mighty leader who has drawn so many closer into God's word could not reach it herself.

So I did the simplest thing. I asked her permission to move the Bible closer, and she agreed. The psalmist's "lamp" was placed within reach again.

Isn't this how Christ often meets us? Not always in the expected places, but in the unexpected ones. Not only in the sanctuary, but in a hospital room. Not always when we are leading strong, but when we are weary and must let others lead us into His therapy.

Mark 2:1-5 came to mind as the moment reminded me: we are all leaders in one season, and learners in another. Sometimes we carry others to the Word; sometimes we must be carried. Sometimes we speak; sometimes we simply hold the "lamp" near enough for someone to see Jesus, and their life, in His light.

Jesus Himself often appeared unexpectedly: at a roadside meal, in a crowded house, in the middle of a storm. His Word was light, and wherever it was drawn close to those in darkness, hearts and minds were opened.

May you be ready for God's next 'holy interruption.' May you move God's Word closer, whether in a study hall or a hospital, whether in joy or in weakness. And may we trust, as Isaiah did, that the Word of God shall go forth, and never return empty. God will give you the opportunity to carry it to someone in need.

Shepherd Sean

Praying in Person at the Friendship Home

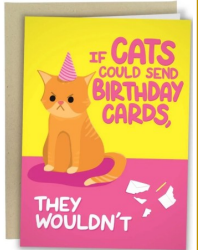
This month, we encourage everyone to **VISIT IN PERSON with a friend** from our the Friendship Home here in Audubon. Help **create compassionate moments** and give OSLC homebound members something to look forward to this month **by sharing the love of Christ** and reconnecting and praying together in person.

FRIENDSHIP HOME — 714 N. Division Street, Audubon

Arch Andersen #307
Jim Bobenmeyer #404
Marvin Christensen #105
Mark Elmquist #403
Bob Sornson #103
Janet Tinker #724

**I heard
Old
People
Like
Getting
Cards**

Theodore Andersen Jr. #107
Caroline Boeck #308
Alice Dreier #712
Mary Kelley #203
Marcia Snyder #104



Tuesday 9am Women's Bible study

We spent the summer viewing 'The Chosen' season 4. The relationship of Jesus and His Disciples was a major focus. From that all inspiring production, the study of the Disciples will be the subject of our fall Bible study. Our first study will be on September 9th at 9:00am.

We plan to gather in the Fellowship Hall.

All are invited to join us!

We usually meet for an hour but sometimes our discussions lead us deeper into the Word.

~Soup season for our Seniors~
OSLC **Golden Dinner Club** would like to serve lunch to our 65+ seniors on **Saturday, September 27th.**

*Serving: Chili or Zuppa Toscana Soup
salad, breadstick, & dessert*

Please RSVP by Sept 20th to:

Tammy Sauers 712-304-0506 or

Katie Bierbrodt 712-304-4033



September Altar Flower Blessings

7th: Given by Barb Jacobsen in honor of her parents' wedding anniversary

14th: Given by Terrill & MaryJo Burger & family in memory of Morgan Borkowski

21st: Given by Sharri Bande in honor of Jack & Rhoda Jorgensen's anniversary

28th: Given by Brad, Kylie Stroher & family in loving memory of Ryan Adkins

**The cost per Sunday remains at \$22
Please designate your payment "flowers"**

October is OSLC Meals on Wheels month!

We deliver Meals on Wheels through congregate meal site every Monday-Friday.

Two (2) people are needed each day (about 10:45-11:30am) to deliver meals to the homebound in our community. Please prayerfully consider helping with this mission one or more days if able.

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board (by the water fountain) for easy sign up!

Thank you for considering to help with this important church mission.

Any questions, please contact co-chairs:

Shelby Jensen (712-304-2833) or Shellie Madsen (Paul) (712-304-0288)

AUGUST COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS *(unapproved)*

- Cleaning responsibilities will transition from Sisters Simply Clean once per week to Taylor Tessman twice per week.
- Church finances are stable and within budget parameters for the year.
- Meal Use funds policy has been updated to cover costs of meal items from funds collected.
- Sunday School teacher installation is Sep. 7th.
- Pastor, preschoolers, 3rd graders, and parents will meet Aug 27th to prepare bibles to be handed out to youth on Sep. 14th.
- Planning for VBS 2026 has begun.
- Building and Property: identified parking lot repairs and exterior needs to be done prior to winter.
- New Opportunities will host a mobile food bank in Fellowship Hall every other month.
- Visitations for homebound members continue to increase, share names, and share in visiting folk!
- There is so much more happening! Stay alert, ask questions, and be a part of all OSLC is doing!

Worship!

This September, we transition our routines and focus on waves of school year activities and busy schedules. In the chaos, we are reminded through scripture that there is a consistency that we can lean upon to keep balance in our lives: ***“God is Trustworthy!”***

Sept 7th – Communion

- *God’s Covenant Faithfulness*
- Matthew 22: 34-40

Sept 14th

- *Choosing Faith Over Fear*
- Mark 9: 14-24

Sept 21st – Communion

- *Trust That Moves Walls*
- Luke 18: 1-8

Sept 28th

- *Strength in Weakness*
- John 15: 1-8

OSLC Vacation Bible School “True North” Program

“I want to take a quick moment to say a huge thank you to everyone who served on the VBS team, donated time, items, and resources, and was praying for our VBS program, students, and staff throughout the week! Thank you for your willingness to participate in what God was doing and being part of making a big, positive impact in the lives of kids and families, all for the glory of God! We could not provide these kinds of opportunities without the support and prayers of our amazing church family and community!”

With appreciation and gratitude,
Katie Bierbrodt,
VBS Director

Mark your calendars for 2026!



Rainforest Falls is coming to OSLC August 2-6!
(notice we are doing FIVE days!)

Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church—August Recap

August’s sermon series: **Resting in God.**

This sermon series reminded us that God offers rest to us all. We simply need to let go of the things holding us back from finding God’s rhythm of rest, honoring the Sabbath, and finding joy in the restful activities.

Aug 4th-7th: VBS (85 kids, 31 youth helpers, 22 adults)

Aug 6th: Saint Carlene Deist’s life celebrated as she entered eternal rest

Aug 8th: Be a Light Bible Study group restocked frozen meals in the basement freezer for anyone in need


Aug 11th-15th: Audubon County Players practiced & performed in the Fellowship Hall at OSLC

Aug 17th: Callahan Renken (son of Andrew & Ellen Renken) was baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity

Thank-you to all those that serve faithfully, give generously, and witness boldly!

September 2025

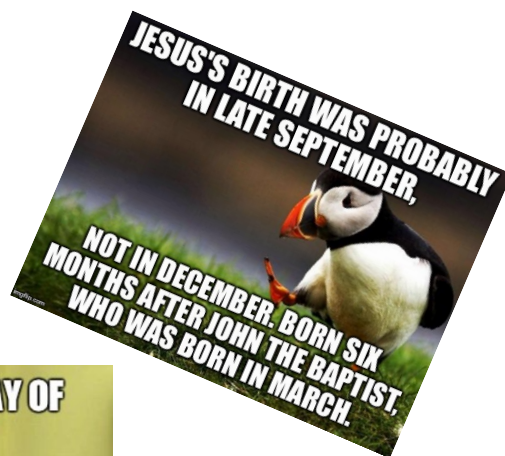
	Sept 7 th	Sept 14 th	Sept 21 st	Sept 28 th
Greeters	Terry & Marla Sunberg	Dan & Amy Madsen	Steve & Raydene Mathisen	Jeff & Deanna Jacobsen
Acolytes	Dalton Miller Dawson Miller	Irelyn Bladt Carly Ellingson	Mary Eldal Taryn Stroeher	Scarlett Toft Madison Obermeier
Readers	Wes Thygesen	Monica Hagedorn	Pam Steckler	BTC- Praise Band
Communion Assistants	Wes Thygesen Diana Deist	N/A	Toby Steckler Kaylee Rokke	N/A
Altar Guild	Kathy Jensen Calise Thygesen	Kathy Jensen Calise Thygesen	Kathy Jensen Calise Thygesen	Kathy Jensen Calise Thygesen
Organist /Music Leadership	Barb Smith	Diane Kleckner	Diane Kleckner	BTC Praise Band
Coffee Servers	Steve & Susie Stetzel SS treats: Janell Lowe	Barry & Lois Eldal SS treats: Connie Burns Baker: Sharlene Merk	Rose Madsen Janell Lowe (coffee & SS treats)	[see bulletin]
Sound	Logan Nielsen	[see bulletin]	Jim Dick	[see bulletin]
Projection	Curtis Nielsen	[see bulletin]	Lori Applegate	[see bulletin]
Video/ Streaming	[see bulletin]	[see bulletin]	[see bulletin]	[see bulletin]
Ushers	Myles Nielsen (Captain) Kurt Nelson Cliff Nelson Tim Andersen Brandon Hansen Karson Hansen Bill Moore Aaron Jorgensen Rod Hansen	Myles Nielsen (Captain) Kurt Nelson Cliff Nelson Tim Andersen Brandon Hansen Karson Hansen Bill Moore Aaron Jorgensen Rod Hansen	Myles Nielsen (Captain) Kurt Nelson Cliff Nelson Tim Andersen Brandon Hansen Karson Hansen Bill Moore Aaron Jorgensen Rod Hansen	Myles Nielsen (Captain) Kurt Nelson Cliff Nelson Tim Andersen Brandon Hansen Karson Hansen Bill Moore Aaron Jorgensen Rod Hansen

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
OSLC Office Hours: 9:00am-noon & 1:00pm-3:00pm Monday-Friday	1 1-3pm Quilting resumes (2 nd & 4 th Mondays)	2 9am Women's Bible study resumes (studying-Disciples)	3 5:30pm Confirmation Parent Meeting	4	5	6 8am Be a Light Bible study
7 RALLY SUNDAY 9am worship w/communion 10:15 coffee fellowship 10:15 BTC practice 10:30 adult Sunday school (studying- book of Hebrews) FAMILY FUN AFTER SERVICE	8 1-3pm Quilting resumes (2 nd & 4 th Mondays)	9 9am Women's Bible study resumes (studying-Disciples)	10 10am Women at the Well Bible study @ Bakery 4:30-5:30pm Mobile Food Bank at OSLC Fel. Hall	11 10:30am Friendship Home Communion Service	12	13 8am Be a Light Bible study 9am Worship meeting (Fellowship Hall reserved)
14 SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS 9am worship & Bible presentation to kids 10:15 coffee fellowship 10:30 Adult & Kids SS classes & Adult Choir first practice 11:15 Ed. Cmte meeting	15 6pm Building & Property Cmte meeting	16 9am Women's Bible study	17 4-5pm First day of Confirmation class 6pm Council mtg	18 <div>Newsletter Deadline</div>	19	20 8am Be a Light Bible study
21 9am worship w/communion & Adult Choir performing 10:15 coffee fellowship 10:30 Adult & Kids SS classes 11:15 BTC practice	22 1-3pm Quilting	23 9am Women's Bible study	24 10am Women at the Well Bible study @ Bakery	25	26	27 8am Be a Light Bible study 12pm senior soup Golden Dinner Club
28 9am worship w/Praise Band 10:15 coffee fellowship 10:30 Adult & Kids SS classes 4pm Fr. Home Vespers	29	30 9am Women's Bible study				



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Looking Forward...

September 7th: Rally Sunday—fun & preparation for a new year!

Adult Sunday School begins following service

September 8th: Quilting resumes 1-3pm

September 9th: 9am Women's Bible study resumes

September 10th: Mobile Food Pantry @ OSLC

September 14th: Sunday School kick-off (kids only)

September 17th: Confirmation classes begin

September 27th: Golden Dinner Club (RSVP by 9/20)

Adult Choir & Behind the Cross praise band also resume this month!



Sean Dougherty, Lead Pastoroslcpastor@protonmail.com

Stephanie Zornes-Poldberg, Administrative Assistantaaoslcaudubon@gmail.com

Church office is open: Monday-Friday, 9am-noon & 1pm-3pm

Phone: 712-588-1113 Emergency contact: **717-829-7189 Pastor Sean** (cell / [WhatsApp](#))

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!