

# OSL & MELO FAITH CONNECTION

Our Savior's & Melo Lutheran Churches

APRIL  
2025

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Jake Reinier  
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**Sunday Worship Times**  
9:00 am Melo Worship  
& Coffee Fellowship  
9:30 am Sunday School at OSL  
10:00 am Sunday School at Melo  
10:15 am OSL Coffee Fellowship  
10:45 am OSL Worship

**Television**  
Live on Garden Valley Channel 34  
Monday at 3:30 pm on Sjoberg's  
Channel 13

**Online**  
[www.oursaviors-melo.org](http://www.oursaviors-melo.org)  
Search OSL Warren on YouTube  
OSL Facebook



If you'd like to  
volunteer & help with  
the Spring Supper  
reach out to WELCA  
Chair Deb Schmidt  
218-201-1510 or call  
the office & Shelly  
will get you  
connected! Thank  
you in advance for  
your support!



## From the Pastor's Desk

“Stay with me. Remain here with me. Watch and pray. Watch and pray.”

The above are lyrics from a Taize song called “Stay with me.” They are similar to the words that Jesus spoke to his disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane, asking them to keep awake and pray that they may not come into the time of trial. The song entreats us to actively dwell with Jesus, to keep our eyes on him and speak to him, perhaps also to listen to him.

One of the ways we can do all of this is through reading the Bible. Through the words of scripture, we can watch Jesus and listen to him. During our reading time, we can also speak to him. We can ask him our questions. We can praise him for his works on our behalf. We can seek his guidance for our own lives.

To that end, I wanted to share some scriptures to consider reading during Holy Week. Through these scriptures, you can walk with Jesus into Jerusalem, to the cross, and to the grave. Use them to help you stay awake with Jesus, watching and praying with him so that you may be drawn closer to him.

### Scriptures for Holy Week:

Palm Sunday (April 13): Luke 19:28-40

Holy Monday: Luke 19:41-48

Holy Tuesday: Luke 20

Holy Wednesday: Luke 21

Maundy Thursday: Luke 22:1-65

Good Friday: Luke 22:66-71 and Luke 23:1-56

Holy Saturday: Luke 23:54-56

Easter Sunday (April 20): Luke 24

Your sister in Christ,

Pastor Amber Kalina



# March Ministry Highlights!



OSL baptism on March 16th for Emersyn. Welcome into the family of God! Parents are Aaron and Brenna Olson.



March 16th—Kids sang “Praise Him” at both OSL & Melo!



# Lambs & Lions

## April Sunday School

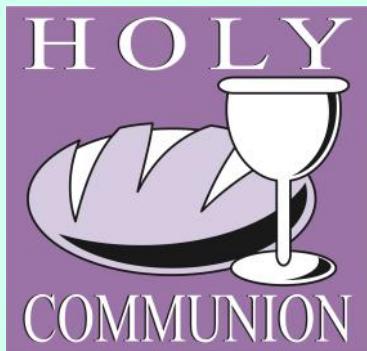
**April 6**-Easter Program Practice during Sunday School Class  
**April 13**-Easter Program Practice during Sunday School Class. Easter Program during church on Palm Sunday.  
**April 20**-No Class Easter Sunday  
**April 27**-Sunday School Class

### **Palm Sunday, April 13th**

Sunday School program during worship at OSL.

Stay for brunch afterwards!!  
Easter egg hunt will be after the meal.

**All are welcome!**



### **First Communion Classes!**

Tuesdays at 3:30 PM  
April 8, 15, 22, 29

First Communion Sunday  
May 4 during worship at Melo and OSL.

## April Acolytes

**April 6**-Ava Nybladh & Camdyn Clarson

**April 13**-Rielly Clark & Malley Maurstad

**April 20**-Chandler Klassy & Olivia Woinarowicz

**April 27**-Leo Johnson & Nora Otterstetter

## April Confirmation

### **7th & 8th Grade**

**5:45 PM** Every Wednesday

Except April 16th

**9th Grade at Noon** - Sunday, April 6th



**Confirmation Students will be helping with the Spring Supper at OSL on Wednesday, April 23rd!**

Feed My Starving Children

Mobile Pack Event

April 11th in Grand Forks!

Confirmation aged youth and families are encouraged to sign up to help!

We will leave from OSL at 5:00 PM on 4/11/25!



# Ministry on the Horizon

Lenten Book Study lead by Pastor Amber Kalina on Martin Luther's "Freedom of a Christian." Thursdays at 7pm at OSL, April 3rd & April 10th

**2025 Community Lenten Service**  
**THEME: "To the Cross"**  
**Wednesday**  
**Evenings at 7:00 PM**  
**Afternoons at 2:00 PM at North Star Manor**

**April 2 Host: Warren Assembly of God**  
Speaker: Pastor Amber Kalina  
Subject: On the Tree: Luke 23:26-43  
**April 9 Host: Our Savior's Lutheran Church**  
Speaker: Pastor James Crandall  
Subject: It is Finished: Luke 23:44-47

**Offering:** This year's offering will go towards gifts of appreciation for the staff of North Star Manor

Thank you for supporting The Gideons International. They visited our congregation on February 23rd and with people's generous donations, we were able to gift them \$293.00.

## April is the OSL/Melo month for Delivering Meals on Wheels!

Pick up is at 11 am each weekday.  
Please call Shelly in the office or sign up on the calendar on the office door! Volunteers are needed. Thank you!



## Holy Week Schedule

April 16th—7:00 pm  
Maundy Thursday at Melo

April 17th—7:00 pm  
Maundy Thursday at OSL

April 18th—7:00 pm  
Good Friday at OSL

April 20th—  
Easter Sunday  
9:00 am—Melo  
10:45 am—OSL



## Save the Date

Spring Festival, May 4, 2-4pm  
OSL will be hosting a Spring Festival at the rec center the afternoon of May 4, with games, prizes, treats, a bouncy house, and live music from the Woodpicks. Bring your family for an afternoon of fun and community!

If you would like to help with the event, please contact Pastor Amber.

# April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Quilting <b>7:00 PM</b> Bell Choir	<b>2</b> <b>5:45-6:45 PM</b> 7th & 8th Grade Conf. <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir at OSL <b>7:00 PM</b> Lenten Services at Warren Assembly of God	<b>3</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Lenten Book Study at OSL	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Melo Worship <b>9:30 AM</b> OSL SS <b>10:00 AM</b> Melo SS <b>10:15 AM</b> OSL Coffee <b>10:45AM</b> OSL Worship <b>12:00 PM</b> 9th Grade Confirmation	<b>7</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Ed Committee <b>7:00 PM</b> Youth Board	<b>8</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Quilting <b>3:30 PM</b> 5th Grade First Communion Class <b>7:00 PM</b> Bell Choir	<b>9</b> <b>NO Lydia-Phoebe</b> <b>Circle at North Star Manor</b> <b>5:45-6:45 PM</b> 7th & 8th Grade Conf. <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir at OSL <b>7:00 PM</b> Lenten Services at OSL	<b>10</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Lenten Book Study at OSL	<b>11</b> <b>Feed My Starving Children in GF.</b> <b>Leave OSL at 5 PM</b> <b>Return by 10 PM</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13 Palm Sunday</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Melo Worship with Easter Program <b>9:30 AM</b> OSL SS <b>10:00 AM</b> Melo SS <b>10:15 AM</b> OSL Coffee <b>10:45AM</b> OSL Worship with Easter Program	<b>14</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Bible Study OSL Library	<b>15</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Quilting <b>3:00 PM</b> Worship & Evangelism <b>7:00 PM</b> Bell Choir	<b>16</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Maundy "Thursday" at Melo <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir at OSL	<b>17</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Maundy Thursday at OSL	<b>18</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Good Friday Service at OSL	<b>19</b> <b>Marcie</b> <b>Anderson</b> <b>Memorial Service at 1:00 PM</b>
<b>20 Easter</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Melo Worship <b>10:15 AM</b> OSL Coffee <b>10:45AM</b> OSL Worship	<b>21</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> OSL Council	<b>22</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Quilting <b>3:30 PM</b> 5th Grade First Communion Class	<b>23</b> <b>5:45 PM</b> 7th & 8th grade confirmation. <b>5:00-7:00 PM</b> Spring Supper at OSL	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Melo Worship <b>9:30 AM</b> OSL SS <b>10:00 AM</b> Melo SS <b>10:15 AM</b> OSL Coffee <b>10:45AM</b> OSL Worship	<b>28</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Bible Study OSL Library	<b>29</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Quilting <b>3:30 PM</b> 5th Grade First Communion Class	<b>30</b> <b>5:45 PM</b> 7th & 8th grade confirmation <b>7:00 PM</b> OSL Choir <b>7:45 PM</b> OSL Bells			

## APRIL SERVANTS

### OSL Lector:

**April 6-** Bev Clausen  
**April 13-** Sunday School  
**April 17-**  
**April 18-**  
**April 20-** Peder Larson  
**April 27-** Betty Dubore

### OSL Usher:

**April 6-** The Vongrovens & Reiniers  
**April 13-** Randy & Ben Gubrud  
**April 17-** Peder Larson  
**April 18-** Peder Larson  
**April 20-** Mike Novacek & Peder Larson  
**April 27-** Mike Novacek

### OSL Coffee Fellowship

**April 6-** The Vongrovens & Reiniers  
**April 13-** Wanda Gubrud  
**April 20-** LeAnne Novacek  
**April 27-** Betty Dubore

**Melo Custodians:** March 30-April 6: Pete & Sandra Solvik      **April 13-20:** Cole & Kathy Wittman  
**April 27-May 4:** Austin Owens

# April Celebrations

Happy Birthday!!!!

1– Lindsey Bring  
 Shirley Hamrick  
 2– Jim Bjorgaard  
 Bob Conely  
 4– Ziva Dahlman  
 5– Miles Hermanson  
 6– Deb Myrfield  
 7– Cortney Thompson  
 10– Mike Goroski  
 Mackenzie Slusar  
 John Johnson  
 Oliver Seaverson  
 12– Mary Nicholls  
 13– Mark Thompson  
 Aaron Knoll  
 14– Kairouan Porter  
 Syndey Olson  
 15– Mick Riopelle  
 Zoe Slusar  
 Marlene Carlson  
 18– Tim Conely  
 19– Brodie Wurtzel  
 22– Thea Linder  
 Evan Monogue

23– Dillon Nelson  
 Jake Reinier  
 Jean Walker  
 Emilia Sparby  
 25– Hattie Lura  
 27– Peder Larson  
 Mike Novacek  
 Karen Pearson  
 Cindy Engelstad



9 - Rod & Darla Myrfield  
 13 - Hannah & Logan LeTexier  
 17 - Herb & Jackie Maurstad  
 24 - Dale & Bev Clausen  
 24 - Mick & Jan Riopelle  
 25 - Dustin & Emily Johnson  
 26 - Jeremy & Jaime Woinarowicz  
 28 - Brian & Sara Wurtzel  
 29 - Pete & Sandra Solvik



March was MN Food Share month. Our local Warren Food Shelf was in need of donations. OSL/Melo congregations were able to donate 108# worth of food that was brought to the church along with monetary donations.



**Monday Morning  
 10:00 AM Bible  
 Study at OSL  
 April 14th & 28th**

# 3/17/25 OSL Council March Meeting Minutes

Members present: Brittney Palm, Donna Miller, Katie Benson, Wanda Gubrud, Wayne Torgerson, Pastor Amber Kalina. Absent: Betty DuBore, Dustin Marquis. Also attending: Amanda Liebersbach.

The meeting was called to order by President Katie Benson at 7:26 pm. Pastor Amber opened with devotions, reading Isaiah 55:10-11. We consider how God's word shapes and sustains us, guiding and speaking to us, enabling us to flourish.

Agenda & Previous Meeting Minutes: Wayne moved to approve the agenda and minutes with additions to New Business: Gift to Feed My Starving Children, Council Installation, and looking ahead to Council Goals; Donna seconded; motion passed.

## **Reports**

Treasurer's Report: Amanda reported that the Raymond James investment is still to be moved to the Bremer Money Market account. The deposit to Proj 2000 reflects the donation for carpet, and the church repair & maintenance expense was to Argyle Bldg Ctr. Brittney moved to approve the Treasurer's report; Wayne seconded; motion carried.

Worship & Evangelism: [Committee met Mar 10. Mar and April altar guild – Joan & Bev C. A sign-up sheet to list favorite hymns is on the narthex table. Lily donation forms are due Apr 4. Plan was to install hooks on north wall for banners.](#)

Community Lenten service at OSL is on Apr 9. Next meeting is Apr 14.

Education & Youth: Committees met on Mar 3. Sunday school teaching schedule was set and kids can bring stuffies on Mar 23. The ice skating event on Mar 9 was canceled due to the ice sheet melting. Pancake breakfast will be held following the Palm Sunday service Apr 13. Youth toured the Food Shelf in Feb and will collect donations in March. They had a lesson on serving others. Next meetings are on Apr 7.

Property & Mgmt/Tech: Carpet for narthex/SS wing/offices is at church. Wheelchair lift replacement was completed Mar 13. HB Sound installed the second streaming camera on Mar 18. Work was completed on the drainage project under the stairs. Fire protection project is still in progress.

Stewardship/Outreach: Committee is planning a community event at the Rec Center on May 4 with activities for families, including a bouncy house.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Amber performed a baptism at OSL on Mar 16. She did seven homebound/hospital visits and continued to meet with prospective members. She completed pre-marital counseling with a couple scheduled to be married in Dec. She completed a book study on a Racial Equity committee with the synod. She continues leading a Lenten study on Luther's *Freedom of a Christian*. She will preach at the Apr 2 community Lenten service at Assembly of God and OSL will host on Apr 9. In April, she will be teaching First Communion classes for 5<sup>th</sup> graders and taking Youth to the Feed My Starving Children event. She will attend the Spring Theological in Hillsboro on Apr 3. Susie Novak-Boelter of North Country Food Bank will be scheduled to visit and inform about hunger in NW MN and the Backpack program. Pastor Amber will be looking into finding ways to assist other service organizations in serving the community. Rev. Melissa Pickering will visit in Sept to implement our participation in the Rural Revival program.

Brittney moved to approve the committee reports; Donna seconded; motion passed.

## **Ongoing Business**

+Wedding Coordinator Position: Two people have expressed interest in the position, pending perusal of a job description. Katie has asked Carol to provide this. The current fee is \$100 and may possibly be adjusted.

## **New Business**

+Sanctuary Curtain: Fabric samples for the curtain were looked at; proposal was received. Pastor Amber will look into finding a consultant for designing the sanctuary altar space.

+Parking Discussion: Katie reported that a member had requested checking into parking diagonally on the north side of the church. Randy obtained information from the city; it was determined that only a couple parking spaces would be gained, as we would still need two handicap spaces. Also, the Fire Dept needs clearance to drive the fire trucks out and optimally, a hearse needs to parallel park when unloading a casket. If we decided to pursue this it would need to be brought to the city council.

+Reinstating Members: [Council voted to approve the reinstatement of membership to a family who expressed a desire to be a part of OSL.](#)

+Council Installation: Installation will be held on Mar 30.

+Gift to Feed My Starving Children: Youth and adults will be participating in the event on Apr 11. Last year, OSL donated \$500 from the Mission Fund. Donna moved to increase the amount to \$1000; Brittney seconded; motion passed.

+Council Goals: Katie mentioned we'll be discussing goals for the coming year at the next meeting.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Brittney moved to adjourn; Wayne seconded; motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. Next meeting: April 21, 2025, at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wanda Gubrud

# Treasurer's Report

## WELCA MINUTES

### General Account

#### Receipts

General Offering	\$ 12,653.35
Endowment Fund	\$ 40.00
Project 2000/Building Fund	\$ 15,240.00
Missions	\$ 20.00
Melo Parish Expense	\$ 19,989.55
Utilities	\$ 300.00
Food Shelf	\$ 25.00
Memorial Fund	\$ 50.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 48,317.90</b>

#### Expenses

Salaries/Pension/FICA	\$ 11,031.44
Pulpit Supply	\$ 243.20
Pastor's Cont. Ed	\$ 60.00
Pastor's Mileage	\$ 239.96
Utilities/Phone/Internet	\$ 1,888.14
Custodial Supplies	\$ 20.99
Church Main/Repairs	\$ 3,180.87
Office Supplies/Postage	\$ 566.54
Music & Choir	\$ 366.96
Worship Supplies	\$ 206.24
Confirmation	\$ 12.48
Bank Service Chg	\$ 23.50

**Total Expenses** **\$ 17,840.32**

**Net Ordinary Income** **\$ 30,477.58**

**Net Income** **\$ 30,477.58**

#### OSL Accounts

Project 2000/Bldg Fund	\$ 95,834.42
Mission Fund	\$ 5,889.99
Memorial Fund	\$ 22,674.35
General Fund	\$ 452,585.16
Bremer MM Fund	\$ 8,416.08
OSL Bell Ringers	\$ 711.11
OSL Servant Group	\$ 9,286.77
Bremer CD	\$ 254,429.87
Bremer CD #2	\$ 107,432.29
Raymond James	\$ 87,609.61
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,044,869.65</b>

The Executive Board of Our Saviors Lutheran WELCA met Monday, March 5, 2025 at 4:30pm. The following board members were present: Deb Schmidt, Virlynn Hanson, Bobbi Mischel and Elva Bustrack.

Deb Schmidt, President, called the meeting to order.

The Secretary's report was read and a motion to approve was made by Elva Bustrack, seconded by Bobbi Mischel. Motion carried. The Treasurer's report was presented and will be put on file for audit.

Virlynn read thank you's from some of the donation recipients in December. Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry MSUM, Northern Rescue Mission, Christus Rex Lutheran Campus Ministry, Warren Food Shelf and North Valley Health Center.

#### Old Business:

There was no old business.

#### New Business:

New Business is the Spring Supper scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup>. There was some discussion on the menu of roast beef, mashed potatoes, vegetable, roll and dessert. Costs have increased but it was decided to keep the same meal because the comments have always been good and a church supper is not only a money maker but a chance to share our ministry. The Spring Supper Committee has met and have plans underway. Virlynn will order the food items through US Foods through the Legion Club. Once the posters are made Virlynn will distribute them. There was some discussion on the dessert. There were other options discussed and the cost of having cookies baked or baking our own was discussed. Deb Schmidt will check with Maggie's and Virlynn Hanson will check on the cost of frozen cookie dough. Once the information is received a decision will be made.

Dates for the WELCA events in 2025 were set and are as follows:

Spring Supper, April 23, 2025

Deliver meals on wheels in April

LWR pick-up in May

Executive Board meeting, June 4, 2025 @ 3:30PM

Executive Board meeting, September 10, 2025 @ 3:30PM

North Star Manor November Birthday Party, (be set by the North Star Manor,) and North Star Manor will provide food for the birthday party (since regulations requires food be prepared in a licensed kitchen.)

Executive Board meeting, December 3, 2025 @ 3:30PM

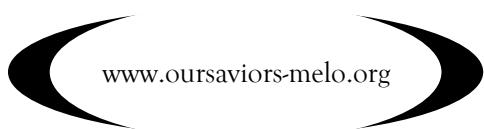
The next WELCA Board meeting will be Wednesday, September 10, 2025 at 3:30 pm at the Assisted Living Meeting room.

The meeting was adjourned

Virlynn Hanson, Secretary

OUR SAVIOR'S & MELO  
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

220 W JOHNSON AVE  
WARREN MN 56762



## Lessons for April 2025

### April 6-Zacchaeus

Psalm 84:1-4, 10-12  
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18  
Luke 18:31-43, 19:1-10

### April 13-Triumphal Entry

Psalm 118:19-23  
Luke 19:29-44

### April 17-Maundy Thurs.

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
1 Corinthians 11:17-26  
Luke 22:1-27

### April 18-Good Friday

7 Last Words

### April 20-Easter

Psalm 118:17, 21-24  
1 Corinthians 15:19-26  
Luke 24:1-12

### April 27-Emmaus Road

Psalm 30:1-5, 11-12  
Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Luke 24:13-35

