

Our Savior's & Melo Lutheran Churches

OSL & MELO FAITH CONNECTION

FEBRUARY 2026

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Pastor

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OSL Custodian

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Sunday Worship Times

9:00 am Melo Worship
10:15 am OSL Coffee Fellowship
10:45 am OSL Worship

Television

Live on Garden Valley Channel 34
at 10:45 AM on Sundays
Monday at 3:30 pm on Sjoberg's
Channel 13.

Online

Search OSL Warren on YouTube.
OSL Facebook

The service is now being streamed live also. A link can be found on the OSL/Melo church website, and archived services can be viewed as well:

www.oursaviors-melo.org

*Please let the office know if there are ever any issues with Channel 34 not working properly. Thank you!



Last month's newsletter was too full to add more pictures, but we want to acknowledge our Christmas decorating group. A huge thank you for all your help making our church look wonderful for the Christmas holiday! **Missing from the picture are:

Janice Grochow, Bev Clausen, & Bob Conely

From the Pastor's Desk

What is the significance of baptism? Luther says this in his Small Catechism: "It signifies that the old creature in us with all sins and evil desires is to be drowned and die through daily contrition and repentance, and on the other hand that daily a new person is to come forth and rise up to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."

This answer reveals to us that baptism is more than a single event that happens to us as babies or at the beginning of our faith journey. Rather, it is a daily reorientation, a daily dying and rising, a daily splash in the life-giving stream. Baptism is both the start and continuation of our journey with Jesus, so as we live in faith, we live into who God has claimed and called us to be in baptism.

In our liturgy for affirming our baptisms, we find five different ways that we can live into our baptisms daily. We can:

Live among God's faithful people

Listen to the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper

Serve all people, following the example of Jesus

Proclaim the Good News of God in Christ through word and deed

Strive for justice and peace in all the earth

It's not a comprehensive list (what list ever is?), but it gives us some ideas for growing in our baptismal identity and living into our baptismal calling. What I also appreciate about this list is that it points to how our baptisms (and us living into them) can ripple out to impact others, as people are served and given the chance to encounter and experience the Good News, and as justice and peace come to life in the world. It's amazing to think that the whole world could be touched and changed by baptism, even as our own lives are touched and changed by it.

No matter how we do it, I hope that all of us will strive to remember and live daily into our baptisms, allowing ourselves to be refreshed by God's grace every day and finding ways share God's grace every day, as well.

*Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Amber Kalina*

January Ministry Highlights!

Special music was provided by OSL Sunday School kids playing their bells during worship on 1-25-26. They did an awesome job!



Thank you to all who attended the annual meetings at OSL & Melo! Thank you to Katie Benson, Dustin Marquis, Brittney Palm & Wanda Gubrud for your time serving on the OSL council! Your work is much appreciated.

Special thanks to Wanda Gubrud (re-elected) and newly elected members~ Mara Hanel & Darrell Rindy to the OSL Council on January 25, 2026.

Have you considered joining church council?

It is a great way to give back to your church. We are still looking for new members & can have up to 9 members. If you are interested in learning more about what is involved in church council contact Pastor Amber or one of our current council members.

Our Mission Statement: “We are a community of faith, saved by God’s grace, who strive to seek God, share God’s gifts, and love God’s people.”

Learning about Jesus can include loads of fun things to do! Confirmation class had a great time running relay races that correlated with Bible stories of Jesus’ life and the miracles he performed!



Annual Meetings
Annual meetings were held on January 25th. Here are your current council representatives:

OSL:
Betty DuBore
Wanda Gubrud
Mara Hanel
Donna Miller
Darrell Rindy
Wayne Torgerson

MELO:
Sandra Solvik, President
Wayne Hamrick, Vice President
Donavon Hamrick, Treasurer
Linda Hamrick, Secretary
Deacons: Cole Wittman, Gary Owens, Aaron Knoll, Ed Gulden

Lambs & Lions

February Sunday School

Feb 1 - Sunday School

Feb 8 - Sunday School - Play Games Day

Feb 15 - NO Sunday School - President's Day weekend

Feb 22 - Sunday School + Singing in church

February Confirmation

7th/8th Grade

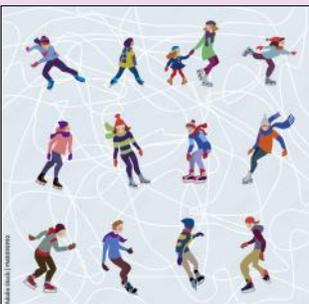
5:45-7 PM Wed., Feb. 4th & 11th

No Class on Feb. 18th, Ash Wednesday

5:45-6:45, Wed., Feb. 25th

9th Grade at 12:00 pm

Sunday, February 22nd.



Family Ice Skating event is planned for February 22nd at the Warren Rec. Center from 3-4:30 PM. Join us for fellowship, hot chocolate, cookies and fun!

UPCOMING!

First Communion Classes will take place in April for 5th grade students. While specific dates & times are still being planned, students can anticipate participating in 4 classes (1/week) in the month of April to learn about the sacrament.

First Communion Sunday will take place in May during worship at Melo & OSL. Updated information will be in next month's newsletter and feel free to reach out to Pastor Amber with questions.

February Acolytes

Feb 1--Matthew Klassy, Jr & Gabe Marquis

Feb 8--Sophia Wurtzel & Loxleigh Myrfield

Feb 15--Emma Dahlman &

Olivia Woinarowicz

Feb 22--Camdyn Carlson & Chandler Klassy



Sunday School Kids had Pajama Day on Jan 11th & enjoyed parting the Red Sea!



Ministry on the Horizon



Lydia-Phoebe Circle meets the second Wed. of the month at 1:30 at North Star Manor Assisted Living Facility. We have a short business meeting, Bible study, & a time for visiting & refreshments. We have about 6 active members and are the only active Circle of OSL. We would love to have others join us. **If you have any questions or are interested in attending, please call or text Bobbi at 218-201-0124.**

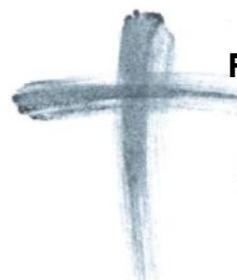


The OSL-Melo quilters meet at 1 pm Tuesdays, the months of Sept.- May, to put together & tie quilts to distribute to various causes such as community residents who are ill or in need of comfort, Marshall County Social Services, Care & Share & Lutheran World Relief. We currently have 5 ladies who participate & would love to have others join us. **If you have any questions or would like to join us, please call or text Bobbi at 218-201-0124.**



WARREN FOOD SHELF IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS FROM OUR PARISH IN FEBRUARY ON TUESDAYS FROM 5-7 PM.

Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the narthex at OSL or call the office if you are able to help out at 218-745-4478. February is OSL's month to help at the Food Shelf. Thank you!



Worship Service
February 18th, 7:00 PM at
Our Savior's Lutheran
Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

2026 Community Lenten Services

Theme: "Jesus' Seven Last Words"

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

February 25: Host: Grace United Methodist Church

Speaker: Fr. Xavier Ilango

March 4: Host: Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church

Speaker: Pr. Dann Pageler

March 11: First Lutheran Church

Speaker: Pr. Amber Kalina

March 18: Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Speaker: Pr Jim Robberstad

March 25: Warren Assembly of God

Speaker: Pr. James Crandall

Lenten Study

Wading in the Waters of Baptism

Baptism is not just an event, it's a way of life. This Lent, let's splash around in the renewing waters of baptism, discovering its significance for our faith, our lives, and the life of the world. This study will take place Thursday evenings at 7pm through the season of Lent, beginning February 19.

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Holy Communion 9:30 AM OSL SS 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45 AM Joint OSL & Melo Worship- Rural Revival with Pr. Melissa Pickering. Forum to follow worship & lunch.	2 10:30 AM Funeral Service at OSL for Bev Maurstad NO Bible Study 6:00 PM Ed Committee	3 1:00 PM Quilting	4 5:45-7 PM 7th/8th Grade Conf. 7:00 PM OSL Choir	5	6	7
8 Pr Joy Grainger preaching 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL SS 10:00 AM Melo SS 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45 AM OSL Worship Pastor Amber away on continuing education	9 W&E Committee - TBD	10 1:00 PM Quilting	11 1:30 PM Lydia-Phoebe Circle at North Star Manor ALF 5:45-7 PM 7th/8th Grade Conf. 7:00 PM OSL Choir	12	13	
15 Holy Communion & Gideons Visiting 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM No OSL SS 10:00 AM No Melo SS 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45 AM OSL Worship	16 President's Day 10:00 AM Bible Study OSL Library 6:00 PM OSL/Melo Council appreciation supper	17 1:00 PM Quilting	18 6:00 PM OSL Choir 7:00 PM OSL Ash Wednesday Service	19 7:00 PM Lenten Study at OSL	20	21
22 Pr Birgitte Simpson Preaching. 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL SS 10:00 AM Melo SS 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45 AM OSL Worship With Welcoming New Members 12:00 PM 9th Grade Confirmation 3-4:30 PM Family Ice Skating at Warren Rec Ctr. 6:15 PM Community Choir Rehearsals at OSL (Sundays through March 22nd)	23	24 1:00 PM Quilting	25 5:45-6:45 PM 7th/8th Grade Conf. 6:00 PM OSL Choir	26 7:00 PM Lenten Study at OSL	27	28

February Servants

OSL Lectors:

Feb 1 - Jodi Tescher
 Feb 8 - Jodi Tescher
 Feb 15 - Jean Walker
 Feb 18th - Carol Kilen - Ash Wednesday
 Feb 22 - Carol Kilen

OSL Ushers:

Feb 1 - Wayne Torgerson
 Feb 8 - Matt Klassy & Dean Chandler
 Feb 15 - Jim Myrfield & John Walker
 Feb 18 - Kevin Hehr - Ash Wednesday
 Feb 22 - Phil Thomson & Kevin Hehr

OSL Coffee Hosts

Feb 1 - Bev Torgerson & Deb Myrfield
 Feb 8 - Danelle Klassy & Mary Jo Chandler
 Feb 15 - Jim Myrfield & Jean Walker

 Feb 22 - Gloria Thompson & Carol Kilen

Melo Custodians:

Feb 1-8 Wayne & Linda Hamrick Feb 15-22 Dustin & Emily Johnson

February

Happy Birthday!!!!

- 2 - Abigail Hamrick
- 3 - John Amundgaard
Jacob Cobb
Emma Dahlman
- 4 - Jon Slusar
- 5 - Sophia Wurtzel
- 8 - Lana Maruska
Cory Myrfield
- 9 - Josh Benson
Patrick Maruska
- 10 -Kenley Marquis
- 11 -Jennifer Conely
Gabe Marquis
- 12 -Kristal Walen
- 13 -Zak Duckstad
Hannah LeTexier
Sawyer Reinier
- 15 -Gracie Kittleson
- 16 -Steve Hamrick
DJ McGregor
- 19 -Jim Myrfield
- 20 -Dorothy LeTexier
Carter Maruska
- 21 -Etta Vongroven
- 22 -Jan Riopelle
- 24 -Philip Olson
Ruby Duckstad
- 27 - Annabella Seaverson– Gutirttez
- 28 - Stacy Balzum



Anniversary
Blessings!!



If your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect, please notify the church office.

Directories are always a work in progress with changing phone numbers, email addresses, etc., and we want to be sure that we have accurate and updated information on our members, but need your help. Please view the directory online to make any changes. To view online, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and follow the prompts under “Sign In” to “Create a login now.” Please remember you must confirm your email address before you can sign in. We have instructions sheets printed out that are in the basket on the narthex table. You can also let the office know of any information changes.

Thank you!

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.



OSL Council January 12th Meeting Minutes

Members present: Betty DuBore, Donna Miller, Dustin Marquis, Katie Benson, Wanda Gubrud, Wayne Torgerson, Pastor Amber Kalina. Absent: Brittney Palm. The meeting was called to order by President Katie Benson at 7:07 pm. Pastor Amber opened with mention of moments of depletion, abundance and hope that people felt at the wedding at Cana, and invited sharing about any of these emotions we might be feeling.

Agenda & Previous Meeting Minutes: Wayne moved to approve the previous minutes and this month's agenda with the addition of Audit Committee to New Business; Donna seconded; motion carried.

Reports

Treasurer's Report: No report; waiting on bank statements.

Worship and Evangelism: Cmte met Jan 12. There have been issues with Bluetooth and viewing of the sanctuary services in the library; Katie will ask Josh to look into it. Cmte wonders if we need to do better reporting re: CCLI music license and if we need to look into additional licensing for the music being used. Altar guild was discussed.

Education & Youth: Cmte met Jan 7. Sunday School did a great job on the Christmas program. Kids will wear pajamas on Jan 11 and play bells on Jan 25. They will do an Easter program on Mar 29 with brunch following the service. There will be a family skating event on Feb 22. Katie Jo will ask Shelly to order 80 palm branches. Next meeting is Feb 1.

Property/Tech: TR Glass replaced the frame on the new east door at their cost. Several keys were made for the new front door and copies given to those that need them. Ducky plans to remove the grand piano soon. Pastor Amber set up a poster in the narthex of the proposed renovation to the sanctuary.

Stewardship/Outreach: Committee could use some additional members. Current members are Betty DuBore, Brittney Palm, Donna Miller and Jennifer Palm.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Amber presided at Christmas Eve services and three funerals. She wrapped up Jeremiah 29 with the Synod. She's preparing for the Annual Meeting and Lent, and will install new members and host the Conf 2 meeting. She'll attend a Commission for Racial Equity, Justice & Right Relationship planning meeting and take continuing education time Jan 26-28 and Feb 8-13. She continues with homebound/hospital visits, teaching Confirmation and her many ongoing monthly activities. Dustin moved to approve the committee reports; Wayne seconded; motion carried.

Ongoing Business

+Rural Revival: Pastor Melissa Pickering (NWMN Synod Rural Ministry) will be joining the joint OSL/Melo worship service on Jan 18. A meal of soup and bread will follow worship and she will give a report of her findings and recommendations. All members are encouraged to attend.

+Sanctuary Renovation: A diagram showing two options of the sanctuary renovation plan is displayed in the narthex. Members are invited to come at 10 am on the next two Sundays with questions and comments and information will be shared. There will be taped areas in the front of the sanctuary to give an idea of some of the proposed changes. A 10 minute comment period will be scheduled during the annual meeting.

+New Members: The following people desire to become members of OSL: Kyle and Jessinda Dahlin, Brielle and Blakely; Michael and Kristen Halvorson, Kole and Havanna; Kevin Hehr; Paul Rasmussen. Betty moved to accept these new members; Donna seconded; motion carried.

New Business

+Audit Committee: Shelly will contact the cmte (Bobbi, Chad, Jennifer) to schedule a date to verify accts.

+New Council Members: There are two new prospective members to join Council in 2026.

+CD#2 Maturity: CD matures on Jan 26. Betty moved to renew the CD at 3.75% for 5 mo.; Dustin seconded; motion carried.

+Funeral Coordinator/Funerals: Wanda left the meeting and Council discussed the position and possibly adding a debit card to the servant acct. Wayne moved that the funeral coordinator is a paid position at \$150 per event, including set up/clean up of narthex and sanctuary; Betty seconded; motion carried.

+Council Appreciation Dinner: The dinner for incoming, outgoing and current OSL & Melo Council is Feb 16.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Wayne moved to adjourn; Donna seconded; motion carried, and meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm. Next meeting: February 16, 2026, at 7 pm. Respectfully submitted, Wanda Gubrud

OSL Treasurer's Report - December 2025

General Account

Receipts

General Offering	\$ 57,076.68
Project 2000/Building Fund	\$ -19,080.00
Food Shelf	\$ -25.00
Memorial Fund	\$ -250.00
Endowment Fund	\$ -440.00
Missions Fund	\$ -220.00
Youth Group	\$ -400.00
Total Income	\$ 36,661.68

Expenses

ELCA Budget	\$ 10,000.00
Other Missions	\$ 4,300.00
Backpack Mission	\$ 3,540.23
Salaries/FICA/Pension	\$ 11,812.66
Pastor's Mileage	\$ 280.56
Pastor's Continuing Ed.	\$ 600.00
Christmas Bonuses	\$ 1,450.00
Utilities/Phone/Internet	\$ 798.30
Church Repair/Maint.	\$ 22,489.00
Piano/Organ Tuning	\$ 145.00
Sunday School	\$ 805.92
Confirmation/Youth	\$ 495.12
VBS	\$ 148.72
Worship Supplies	\$ 452.31
Music & Choir	\$ 121.00
Youth Programming Costs	\$ 124.60
Office Supplies/Postage	\$ 152.14
Office Repair & Maint.	\$ 254.02
Bank Service Chg	\$ 3.00

Total Expenses	\$ 57,972.58
Net Ordinary Income	\$ -21,310.90
Net Income	\$ -21,310.90

All OSL Accounts

General Fund	\$ 65,783.15
Memorial Fund	\$ 23,443.51
Mission Fund	\$ 6,144.92
OSL Bell Ringers	\$ 711.75
OSL Servant Group	\$ 11,164.26
Project 2000/Bldg Fund	\$ 115,272.40
Bremer MM Fund	\$ 97,804.45
Bremer CD#1	\$ 258,749.25
Bremer CD#2	\$ 110,507.79
ELCA Investment	\$ 275,000.00
Total	\$ 964,581.48

“Seek God, share God’s gifts, love God’s people.” At the beginning of 2025, we adopted this statement as our mission. Thanks to your financial support, we have been able to live into it in so many ways: feeding students, blessing the wider community, and helping people to grow closer to God. [Thank you](#) for being part of the ministry of OSL & Melo.

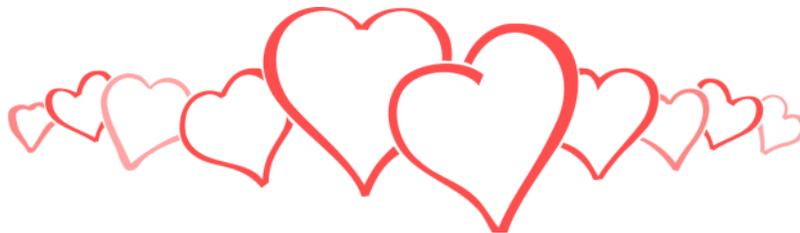
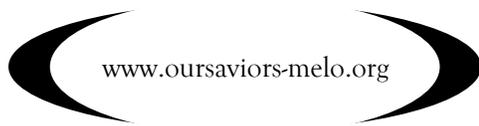
With gratitude & hope,
Pastor Amber Kalina

OSL Members

There are now boxes of generic offering envelopes located on the narthex table available to use without dates or numbers, thus a box will last longer without wasting envelopes. For members not currently using numbered envelopes, please feel free to take a box for your offerings. Thank you!

OUR SAVIOR'S & MELO
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

220 W JOHNSON AVE
WARREN MN 56762



Lessons for February 2026

Feb 1- The Woman at the Well

Psalm 42:1-6
Genesis 21:14-19
John 4:1-42

Feb 8-Healing Stories

Psalm 40:1-5
2 Kings 20:1-6
John 4:46-54 [5:1-18]

Feb 15-The Man Born Blind

Psalm 27:1-6
Leviticus 19:13-18
John 9:1-41

Feb 18-The Good Shepherd

Ash Wednesday
Psalm 51:1-12
Psalm 23
John 10:1-18

Feb 22-Jesus Raises Lazarus

Psalm 104:24-30
Job 19:23-27a
John 11:1-44