

OSL & MELO FAITH CONNECTION

Our Savior's & Melo Lutheran Churches

MAY 2026

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Pastor

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Sunday Worship Times

9:00 AM Melo Worship
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
Search OSL Warren on YouTube
OSL Facebook

2026 OSL Spring Supper

A special thank you to everyone who worked, supported and/or attended the OSL Spring Supper. We are so thankful for all the men and women that signed up to work shifts, and those who also stayed longer or lent a hand where it was needed.

Thank you to the confirmation group that was led by their youth director, Katie Marquis, and Pastor Amber.

A special thank you to the WELCA committee, Virlynn Hanson, Bobbie & Roger Mischel, Shelly Conely, Travis Hanel, Bob Conely, and True Value.

We served 301 meals and had a great turnout of people from our community.

Thank you,
Co-Chairs: Carol Kilen, Sam Conely, and Deb Schmidt



From the Pastor's Desk

"Morning has broken, like the first morning. Blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing. Praise for the morning. Praise for them springing fresh from the world."

With morning coming earlier and earlier, it seems like my morning walks with my dog Skyler have become earlier and earlier, as well. Sometimes, it is as if we are the only ones awake, aside from the grazing bunnies and the singing birds. You can't find a more peaceful time in Warren than during those early, quiet mornings.

It makes me think of the words of the hymn above. The words connect the creation that we see today to the creation that God made at the beginning of the world, and they encourage us to give praise for the existence of this world that has been carefully made by our Creator.

Every day, we live, move, and have our being in the midst of this creation. We ourselves are part of it as fellow creatures of God's own design. This is, indeed, worthy of recognition and praise. As the warming weather encourages us to spend more time outside, even early in the morning, I hope we will all have a chance to be renewed by the beauty around us and give thanks.

*Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Amber Kalina*

Ps. A note about being wary of scams: Scammers love to pose as pastors and other church staff members, hoping to capitalize on the trust we have built with each other. Again, we want to remind you to be aware as recently our office manager got an email from someone posing as a staff member requesting banking information, etc., to set up a direct deposit. Please know that emails pretending to be a pastor or church leader to get gift cards or bank information are common scams carried out against churches and church goers. Please know that a **true staff member or leader at OSL/Melo will never ask you to make such purchases or ask for your personal credit card or banking information.** If you ever get suspicious messages like these, do not respond to them. Instead, call the church office or me to report the scam attempt. This way we can help keep each other informed and safe.

April Ministry Highlights!



Thank you to Pastor Amber & Abby Kalina for providing wonderful music on Easter Sunday at Melo.



OSL Choir sang "Easter Anthem" by Anne Herring & Jack Schrader on Easter Sunday. Thank you for your beautiful voices!



A graveyard service was held for Gail Knutson on April 9th at OS� due to wet conditions at Greenwood Cemetery. God Bless the memory of Gail.



Installation of OS� Council Members on April 26. A huge thank you for your dedication & awesome work!



Finley Justin Johnson was baptized on April 26. He is the son of Justin and Allison Johnson. Sponsors for Finley were Cameron Finseth and Matthew & Danelle Klassy. God bless Finley!



Sponsors, Jessica & Christian Olson, presented Braxton Michael Miller during his baptism on April 19th. Braxton is the son of Brice & Cassandra Miller. God bless Braxton!



Lambs & Lions

May Sunday School

May 3- Class

May 10 – Last Day of Sunday School--
Kids Sing During Worship Service &
Carnations Will Be Given To The Mothers

Acolyte Schedule

May 3rd - Gabe Marquis &
Loxleigh Myrfield
May 10th - Camdyn Carlson & Kayle Boe
May 17th - Emma Dahlman &
Ava Nybladh
May 24th - Brinley Bring & Gabe Marquis
May 31st - Matthew Klassy, Jr. &
Chandler Klassy

First Communion Sunday is May 3rd!

IreLynn & AnnaLynn Pollestad,
Etta Vongroven, Rhett Reinier, and
Lincoln Montana will
receive first communion at OSL

Senior Recognition Sunday May 10th
will be at Melo

Congratulations to our 2026 Seniors:
Elliott Clark, Madeline Hamrick,
Ella Nybladh, & Ava Wittman



Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack Event was held on April 24th in Grand Forks. A huge thank you to OSL & Melo youth, families, and chaperones who volunteered their time. Our group packed 13 boxes and the total of those gathered for that shift packed 335 boxes (72,300 meals) which will feed 198 kids for a year! To learn more about Feed My Starving Children, go to FMSC.org

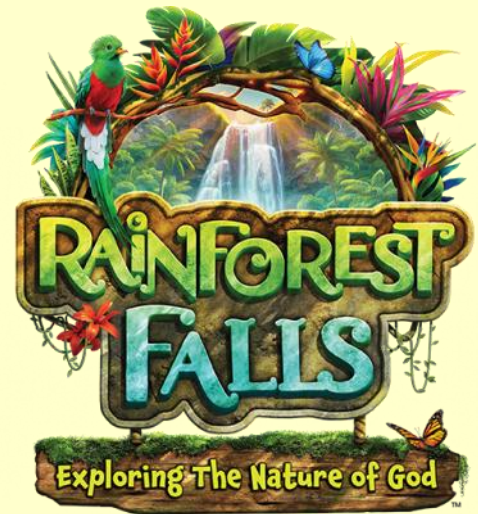


Ministry on the Horizon



OSL
SUMMER EVENING WORSHIP
AT 6:00 PM
June 1
July 13
August 10

SAVE THE DATE



VBS at OSL
August 3-6th
Time: 5:45-8:15 PM
August 6th—
Picnic & Program
Starting at 6:00 PM

Toward the end of May, construction will begin in the sanctuary at OSL. This may interrupt our ability to stream Sunday worship services, but we do intend to still have in-person worship while this is happening. Feel free to drop in and see how the space slowly takes on new shape. We anticipate worshipping together in our renewed space by the end of August.



Quilting!

OSL/MELO Quilters Meet on
Tuesdays from 1-4 PM At OSL, September
through May! All skill levels are welcome to join
in on the fun! More volunteers are needed!



**Monday Morning
10:00 AM Bible
Study at OSL
May 4th
All are welcome!**



Lydia-Phoebe Circle
Meets on May 13th
1:30 PM at North Star
Manor Assisted Living
Facility

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 First Communion 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL S.S. 10:00 AM Melo S.S. 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45AM OSL Worship Noon - 9th grade confirmation	4 10:00AM Bible Study OSL Library	5 1:00 PM Quilting	6 Pastor Amber out of the office →	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day Senior Sunday Last Day of Sunday School 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL SS 10:00 AM Melo SS 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45AM OSL Worship	11 TBD W&E Meeting 7:00 PM OSL Council Meeting	12 1:00 PM Quilting	13 1:30 PM Lydia-Phoebe Circle at North Star Manor Assisted Living	14	15	16
17 Pr. Darrel Cory Presiding 9:00 AM Melo Worship 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45AM OSL Worship Pastor Amber out of office for continuing Education →	18	19 1:00 PM Quilting	20	21	22	23
24 9:00 AM Melo Worship 10:45AM OSL Worship	25 Memorial Day Office Closed	26	27	28	29	30
31 9:00 AM Melo Worship 10:45 AM OSL Worship						

May Celebrations

Happy Birthday!!!!

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2 - Rielly Clark
Tim Howard | 19 - Tracy Anderson
Brooklyn Porter |
| 3 - Pat Williams | 20 - Bobbi Mischel |
| 4 - Kaley Boe
Emily Johnson
Matthew Owens | 22 - Cameron DuBore
Maison Carlson |
| 5 - Sydney Bring
Kyle Kleinvachter
Wayne Spidahl | 24 - Clarice Demeyere
Matt Vongroven |
| 6 - Leanne Novacek | 25 - Jason Clark |
| 7 - Blake Owens | 27 - Tammy Duckstad |
| 9 - June Vongroven | 31 - Matthew Klassy Jr
Fredryce Sundby |
| 10 - Donna Gallagher | |
| 11 - Jaime Woinarowicz | |
| 14 - Gabby Hamrick | |
| 15 - Alec Nybladh
Madeline Hamrick | |
| 16 - Solvi Barbosa | |
| 17 - Kyle Dahlin
Ally Linder
Jodi Tescher | |
| 18 - David Balzum
Betty DuBore | |



Anniversary!

- 11- Ben & Kristen Duckstad
- 24- Mara & Travis Hanel
- 26- Jim & Tammy Duckstad
- 29- Mike & Hollie Cheney

Have we missed your big day? Please let the office know if you haven't seen your birthday/anniversary on our list so we can add & celebrate with you!

May Servants

OSL Lector:

- May 3 - Camdyn Carlson
- May 10 - Kaitlin Barbosa
- May 17 - Peder Larson
- May 24 - Kristen Halvorson
- May 31 - Carol Anderson

OSL Usher:

- May 3- Hayden Szczepanski & Johnny Barbosa
- May 10- Hayden Szczepanski & Dustin Marquis
- May 17- Ben Pahlen & Paul Rasmussen
- May 24- Michael Halvorson
- May 31- Need volunteer

OSL Coffee Fellowship

- May 3- Hannah Szczepanski
- May 10- Hannah Szczepanski & Katie Marquis
- May 17- Kelly Pahlen
- May 24 & 31: Coffee now paused

Melo Custodians: April 26-May 3 Karen Pearson May 10-17 Cole & Kathy Wittman May 24-31 Blake Owens

OSL Council April 20th, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Members present: Betty DuBore, Donna Miller, Wanda Gubrud, Darrell Rindy, Wayne Torgerson, Pastor Amber Kalina. Absent: Mara Hanel. Also attending: Katie Benson.

The meeting was called to order by President Wayne Torgerson at 7:10 pm. Pastor Amber opened with a question about what things we have witnessed and give thanks to God for in this season of growing.

Agenda & Previous Meeting Minutes: Betty moved to approve the previous minutes and this month's agenda, adding 'School Meal Funding' to New Business; Donna seconded; motion carried.

Reports

Treasurer's Report: CD#1 was renewed with a maturity date of Sept 21. It was noted that CDs don't renew automatically at the best rate; rather, a phone call or in-person visit is required. There was a deficit of \$5,434 in March. Darrell moved to approve the treasurer's report; Betty seconded; motion passed.

Worship and Evangelism: Discussion was held about increasing focus on evangelism, i.e. reaching out to members who we haven't seen for awhile at services and encourage them to come and witness how our ministry has evolved and how they can be blessed by it. Upcoming special services in May are First Communion (5th graders), Mother's Day/Last day of Sunday School, and Senior Recognition Sunday. Bell Choir and Choir have been rehearsing. Pulpit supply is needed for May 17.

Education & Youth: Cmte met Apr 6. Palm Sunday Easter program, brunch and egg hunt went very well and we thank all who helped make it a success. May 10 is the final day for Sunday School and kids will sing and give carnations to mothers. Scholarship apps were sent out and will be awarded on Senior Recognition Sunday May 10. VBS is scheduled for Aug 3-6. Pastor Amber will be away at continuing Ed but in order to have the help of student volunteers we'll keep the original date. Jim Duckstad has obtained stickers to place in the 3rd grade bibles given by the Duckstad family. Next meeting is Apr 27.

Property & Mgmt/Tech: Josh will install a new router for the office computers. Tim Martine recommended removing the ash tree on the north lawn and gave an estimate for removal and planting of a new tree. Darrell and Wayne are in agreement and we'll look into doing this. New kitchen and bathroom faucets were installed at the parsonage. We'll inquire if the historical society would have interest in taking the pulpit.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Amber attended the Great Synod Get Together on Mar 21 and Joint Theology Day on Apr 16. She presided at baptisms for Maisynn Lura and Braxton Miller, Holy Week services, and a graveside service for Gail Knutson. The 2026 Synod Assembly is being held virtually by zoom; Darrell and Wayne will attend along with Pastor Amber. She has provided services/Bible Study at EGF Heritage Homes. She'll take a group to the Feed My Starving Children packing event as well as leading a Racial Equity training on Apr 24. She has two upcoming Baptisms, is teaching First Communion classes, and will begin pre-marital counseling with a couple. She continues with home-bound/hospital visits, Confirmation, worship/Communion at North Star Manor, and many ongoing monthly activities. Installation of Council will take place on Apr 26.

Stewardship & Outreach: A group of about 16 youth and adults will be packing meals at the FMSC event.

Donna moved to receive the committee reports; Darrell seconded; motion carried.

Ongoing Business

+Baptism/Faith Boxes: We thank Ron Leverington for his many years of service making the baptism/faith boxes. Mike Cheney and Bob Conely will take over from Ron and we thank them for volunteering.

+Sanctuary Reno Update: Sanctuary carpet was discussed and the Armure sample was chosen. Shelly at Foss will send paint samples in some shades of white. Pastor Amber is working on obtaining brass plaques to provide descriptions of the stained glass windows in the sanctuary and narthex stairwell.

+Streaming License: An additional license was purchased for music use during streaming with One License.

New Business

+Lawn Mowing: Betty moved to engage Reilly Clark for the church yard mowing and John and Wilson Craik for the parsonage mowing at a rate of \$65/time; Donna seconded; motion passed.

+Anonymous Donation: Discussion was held on how to recognize the abundance we have received in the anonymous donation. Betty will write a paragraph for the newsletter to inform members and thank the donor for this amazing gift. We discussed the enormous responsibility of managing this gift that OSL has been blessed with and will follow up at the next meeting with ideas.

+Council Goals: Goals were discussed and tabled to the next meeting.

+School Meal Funding: Katie Benson reported (in communication with Bryan Hackbarth) that summer meals won't be funded this year. There is \$21K left over from our 2025 donation. Discussion was held on inviting other churches to donate along with OSL; Katie will inquire as to an approximate amount needed.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and was adjourned at 9:00 pm. Next meeting: May 11, 2026, at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Gubrud

March 2026 Treasurer's Report

General Account

Receipts

General Offering	\$ 14,815.09
Project 2000/Building Fund	\$ 260.00
Endowment Fund	\$ 40.00
Missions	\$ 30.00
Youth Group	\$ 200.00
Total Income	\$ 15,345.09

Expenses

Other Missions	\$ 1,000.00
Backpack Mission	\$ 2,061.49
Salaries/Pension/FICA	\$ 12,171.07
Funeral Directory	\$ 150.00
Grounds Keeper	\$ 337.50
Utilities/Phone/Internet	\$ 2,087.73
Pastors Mileage	\$ 90.34
Church Repair/Maint	\$ 202.27
Special Assessments	\$ 208.12
Sunday School Expense	\$ 385.17
Vacation Bible School	\$ 411.38
Worship Supplies	\$ 944.34
Office Supplies/Postage	\$ 201.88
Office Repair/Maint	\$ 217.14
Bank Service Chg	\$ 3.00
Custodial Supplies	\$ 69.83
Parsonage Repair&Maint.	\$ 168.69
Parsonage Special Assessments	\$ 69.08
Total Expenses	\$20,779.03

Net Ordinary Income **\$ -5,433.94**

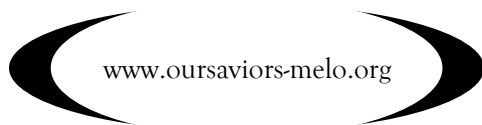
Net Income **\$ -5,433.94**

OSL Accounts

General Fund	\$ 60,414.91
Memorial Fund	\$ 23,449.29
Mission Fund	\$ 6,146.43
OSL Bell Ringers	\$ 711.92
OSL Servant Group	\$ 11,904.51
Project 2000/Bldg Fund	\$ 115,286.61
Money Market	\$ 97,910.07
Bremer CD #1	\$ 262,990.34
Bremer CD #2	\$ 112,383.85
ELCA Investment	\$ 274,793.82
Total	\$ 965,991.75

OUR SAVIOR'S & MELO
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

220 W JOHNSON AVE
WARREN MN 56762



Lessons for May 2026

**May 3-First Communion/Paul's
Sermon at Athens**

Psalm 22:25-31
Acts 17: 16-31
John 16: 4-15

**May 10-Graduate Sunday/
Partnership in the Gospel**

Psalm 29:1-4, 10-11
Philippians 1:1-18a
John 16:16-24

May 17- The Christ Hymn

Psalm 86:1-7
Philippians 2:1-13
John 16:25-33

**May 24- Pentecost; Rejoice in the
Lord**

Psalm 96:1-6
Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7
John 14:15-17, 25-31

May 31- Loss and Loyalty

Psalm 18:1-6
Ruth 1:1-22
Matthew 5:3-9

