

Our Savior's & Melo Lutheran Churches

OSL & MELO FAITH CONNECTION

MARCH 2026

In This Issue.....

Page 2 & 3 — From the Pastor's Desk + February Highlights

Page 4 & 5 — Lambs & Lions News (Sunday School + Youth Group)

Page 6 & 7 — Calendar of Events, Servant Lists & Celebrations

Page 8 & 9— Council meeting minutes , Treasurers Report

Page 10 — Lessons and Sermon Topics for the Month

Lilies will be ordered to decorate the OSL sanctuary on Easter Sunday. If you wish to share a lily, please complete form.

(Cost: \$23)

Please take the lily home after the April 5th Easter Service

Order Deadline is March 16th****

Name _____

In Memory of

In Honor of

Pastor
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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
Search OSL Warren on YouTube
OSL Facebook



From the Pastor's Desk

In the season of Lent, we are encouraged to intentionally seek God and strive to live into the Good News of Jesus Christ through word and deed. This can be accomplished in many ways, through self-examination and repentance, through prayer and fasting, or through sacrificial giving and works of love.

Something I would like to encourage all of us to do in this time is to commit to daily prayer. Prayer is our way of connecting with God, sharing with him what we or others are experiencing and listening for his responses. It is also a practice that can be done anywhere and anytime, so as soon as we remember to do it, we are able to do it.

If you're wanting to pray but aren't sure what to pray for, here are a few ideas: Say the Lord's Prayer (Jesus gave it to us for a reason)

Lift up the following petitions, adding in specific individuals or circumstances you are aware of:

for the natural world and for creatures great and small

for nations afflicted by war, disaster, or injustice

for those who work for the sake of others

for those experiencing need or suffering of any kind

for the Church in every land and for the churches in Warren, including our own

for those who do not know the love of Jesus

for those whom we love AND for those whom we find it difficult to love

Follow the acronym PRAY (Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield) or PASTA (Praise, Adoration, Sorry, Thanks, Ask)

Just sit in silence and let the Spirit pray for you ("Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words" - Romans 8:26)

*Your Sister in Christ,
Pastor Amber Kalina*



February Ministry Highlights!

Trivia & Game Day on Super Bowl Sunday at OSL



Also the kiddos got to enjoy snack time!



February 22nd was new member Sunday at OSL. We rejoice with you in the life of baptism, and together we will seek God, Share God's gifts, and love God's people! A huge welcome to Paul, Jessinda, Kyle, Blakely, Brielle, Kristen, Michael, Kole, Havanna, & Kevin.



Wintertime fun at OSL's family ice skating event held on Feb. 22 at the Warren Community Rec Center. It was a great day to be inside enjoying skating at the rink on such



a cold windy day! A huge thank you to all who helped make this happen, and for the fellowship, hot chocolate & cider, & cookies!



Lambs & Lions

March Sunday School

March 1 - Sunday School-Regular Class
March 8 - Sunday School - Craft Day
March 15 - Sunday School - Regular Class
March 22 - Sunday School - Prek-2nd-Learn Easter Story. 3rd-6th--Program Practice
March 29 - Sunday School - Palm Sunday Program at OSL.

March Acolytes

March 1 - Kaley Boe & Loxleigh Myrfield
March 8 - Sophia Wurtzel & Ava Nybladh
March 15 - Emma Dahlman & Olivia Woinarowicz
March 22 - Matthew Klassy, Jr. & Gabe Marquis
March 29 - Camdyn Carlson & Chandler Klassy

March Confirmation

7th/8th Grade: Wednesdays at 5:45-6:45.
No class March 11.
Classes will be only 1 hour long during Lent.
9th Grade: Sunday, March 8th at noon.

OSL Sunday School kids sang during worship on Feb. 22nd. Great job!!



OSL Sunday School Kids will have their Easter program on Palm Sunday –March 29th
There will be a meal after worship service.



UPCOMING!

First Communion Classes will take place in April for 5th grade students. While specific dates and times are still being planned, students can anticipate participating in four classes (one per week) in the month of April to learn about the sacrament. First Communion Sunday will take place on May 3, during worship at Melo and OSL. Feel free to reach out to Pastor Amber with any questions.

Class of 2026

Scholarship letters and Applications will be sent out the end of February!
Applications are due by May 1st.



If you have any questions or did not receive an application, please contact Shelly in the office!

Ministry on the Horizon

**Monday Morning
Bible Study at 10:00 AM**

**March Dates: 2nd, 16th & 30th
All are Welcome!**



**Baptism Lenten Study
lead by Pastor Amber Kalina
Thursdays at 7pm at OSL
March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th**



We were blessed to have Pr Birgitte Simpson from Peoples Church in Bemidji come and share with us about her ministry on February 22. If you are interested and want to support the work of Peoples Church by giving online, sending donations, or visiting and volunteering with them. Here is the link below:
<https://peopleschurch-elca.org/donations/>

You may also drop off donations at OSL's Church Office (checks made out to Peoples Church). Thank you!

2026 Community Lenten Service

**THEME: "Jesus' Seven Last Words"
Wednesday**

Evenings at 7:00 PM

Afternoons at 2:00 PM at North Star Manor

March 4: Host: Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church

Speaker: Pr. Dann Pageler

Subject: Forgiveness and Paradise:
Luke 23:34, 43

March 11: Host: First Lutheran Church

Speaker: Pr. Amber Kalina

Subject: My God, My God: Matthew 27:46

March 18: Host: Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Speaker: Pr. Jim Robberstad

Subject: Father, Into Your Hands:
Luke 23:46

March 25: Host: Warren Assembly of God

Speaker: Pr. James Crandall

Subject: It is Finished: John 19:30

Offering: This year's offering will go towards blessing people in the Warren community.



March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 HOLY COMMUNION 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	2 10:00 AM Bible Study at OSL 6:00 PM Education Committee meeting	3 1:00 PM Quilting	4 5:45-6:45 PM 7th/8th Grade Confirmation 6:00 PM Choir at OSL 7:00 PM Lenten Service at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church	5 7:00 PM Baptism Lenten Study at OSL	6	7
8 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 Noon: 9th Grade Conf.	9 TBD Worship & Evangelism Committee meeting	10 1:00 PM Quilting	11 No Lydia-Phoebe Circle 3:30 PM WELCA meeting at North Star Manor No 7th/8th Grade Conf. 6:00 PM Choir at OSL 7:00 PM Lenten Service at First Lutheran Church	12 7:00 PM Baptism Lenten Study at OSL	13	14
15 HOLY COMMUNION 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL S.S. 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:00 AM Melo S.S 10:45 AM OSL Worship	16 10:00 AM Bible Study at OSL 7:00 PM OSL Council Meeting	17 1:00 PM Quilting	18 5:45-6:45 PM 7th/8th Grade Conf. 6:00 PM Choir at OSL 7:00 PM Lenten Service at OSL	19 7:00 PM Baptism Lenten Study at OSL	20	21
22 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL SS NO Melo SS 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45 AM OSL Worship	23	24 1:00 PM Quilting	25 5:45-6:45 PM 7th/8th Grade Conf. 6:00 PM Choir at OSL 7:00 PM Lenten Service at Warren Assembly of God	26 7:00 PM Baptism Lenten Study at OSL	27	28
29 HOLY COMMUNION 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL SS 10:00 AM Melo SS 10:15 OSL Coffee 10:45 AM OSL Worship & Palm Sunday Program	30 10:00 AM Bible Study at OSL	31 1:00 PM Quilting				

March Servants

<p><u>OSL Lector</u> March 1 - Shawn Spidahl March 8 - Ally Linder March 15 - Heather Goroski March 18 - Heather Goroski March 22 - Mara Hanel March 29 - Ally Linder</p>	<p><u>OSL Coffee Fellowship</u> March 1 - Heather Goroski March 8 - Matt Linder March 15- Janice Grochow Linda Conely March 18 - Linda Conely Heather Goroski March 22 - Janice Grochow Heather Goroski March 29 - Sam & Linda Conely</p>	<p><u>OSL Ushers</u> March 1 - Wayne Spidahl March 8 - Philip Olson March 15 - Tim Conely & Randy Engelstad March 18 - Tim Conely & Mike Goroski March 22 - Chad Treumer & Randy Engelstad March 29- Casey & Tim Conely</p>
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Melo Custodians: March 1-8 - Austin Owens March 15-22 Aaron & Kelli Knoll

March

Happy Birthday!!!!

- 5 - Jean Leverington
Bernie Pollestad
- 6 - Savannah Bishop
- 7 - Rosalia Pollestad
- 9 - Rhett Reinier
- 11 - Ethan Zutz
- 13 - Brittney Palm
Sandra Solvik
- 14 - Scarlett Conely
Sara Wurtzel
- 15 - Matt Linder
- 17 - Stacy Laudal
- 18 - Samantha Hedlund
- 19 - Malley Maurstad
- 21 - Kaitlyn Anderson
IreLynn Pollestad
- 22 - Ben Gubrud
Matthew Hanel
- 25 - Austin Owens
- 26 - Maggie Melgard
Mylo Carlson
- 28 - Nancy Mattson
- 29 - Zoey Boman
Pete Hanson
Layla Klassy
- 30 - Mara Hanel
Chad Treumer
- 31 - Brenna Benson
Dustin Marquis
Michael Slusar

Anniversaries: None



REMINDER!

Our Church Directory is Online!

View our church directory online or via the **FREE mobile app today. Use this directory for church servant lists, birthdays, Sunday school classes and more, so please check it out and make sure your information is up-to-date!**

To view the directory 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.

There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for "**Instant Church Directory**" to get the download.

You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.

Need help or have questions?

Contact Shelly in the office!



February 16, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes

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

The meeting was called to order by Pastor Amber Kalina at 7:30 pm. Pastor Amber opened with prayer.

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

Reports

Treasurer's Report: Amanda reported she was able to log in online today to check the ELCA investment fund data; balance has increased from initial \$275K to \$284,831.39. Family paid leave amount is 0.044% and will be paid quarterly electronically through Phil Thompson Agency. OSL will pay this for Pastor and Shelly. Wayne moved to approve the treasurer's report; Donna seconded; motion passed.

Worship and Evangelism: Cmte met Feb 9. They mostly focus on worship planning and wonder if they need to do more re: evangelism, to include welcoming visitors and new people and reaching out to and integrating new members. New Member Sunday has been rescheduled for Feb 22; suggestion was made to post pictures on the bulletin board to help identify them. Gideons will present on Feb 15. Senior Recognition Sunday is May 17. Choir has plans to sing on Ash Wednesday, Lenten service at OSL, Palm Sunday or Easter, and Senior Recognition Sunday. Bell Choir will resume rehearsals after Lent. Next meeting is Mar 9.

Education & Youth: Cmte will meet in February. There will be a family skating event at the Rec Center on Feb 22 with cocoa and cookies served. Sunday school will present an Easter program on Palm Sunday.

Property & Mgmt/Tech: Bob C is doing a great job keeping the entries and sidewalks clear of snow and ice. Weights were added to the flags/flagpoles to aid in prevention of wrapping and tearing of the flags. Ducky and crew removed the grand piano which was no longer able to be tuned. The 1B option for the sanctuary renovation project was chosen, removing six pews and the pulpit. Samples of the narthex and entry carpet were sent to designer Shelly at Foss; she will be helping to choose options for the sanctuary carpet.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Amber is preparing for Lent and will lead a study on the life of Baptism on Thursday evenings. She'll install new members on Feb 22. She presided over a non-member memorial service, hosted a Conference 2 meeting, attended a Commission for Racial Equity, Justice & Right Relationship planning meeting and took continuing education time Jan 26-28 and Feb 8-13. She continues with homebound/hospital visits, Confirmation, worship/Communion at North Star Manor, and her many ongoing monthly activities. She will participate in the Ministerial Lenten service rotation.

Stewardship & Outreach: Cmte is looking for some new ideas to focus on.

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

Ongoing Business

+Rural Revival: Pastor Melissa Pickering (NWMN Synod Rural Ministry) joined us via zoom following the joint OSL/Melo worship service on Feb 1. She gave many ideas on internal growth and outreach ideas we could work on. The Stewardship & Outreach committee will look at her report and discuss implementing one or two of the suggested activities to begin with.

+Sanctuary Renovation: After sharing information and inviting discussion during the annual meeting, Council chose option 1B which reduces seating by about 25 while increasing space, accessibility and functionality. When design choices are finalized, we'll receive an updated expense quote from Comstock and Foss, with an expected date of mid-May to begin construction.

+New Members: On Feb 22 the following people will join the membership at OSL: Kyle and Jessinda Dahlin, Brielle and Blakely; Michael and Kristen Halvorson, Kole and Havanna; Kevin Hehr; Paul Rasmussen.

New Business

+Election of Council Officers: Darrell moved to nominate Wayne as Council President, Betty as Vice President and Wanda as Secretary and that nominations cease; Mara seconded; motion passed. Wayne, Betty and Wanda were elected. Council Installation Sunday date will be set. Committee assignments: Stewardship & Outreach – Betty, Donna, Mara; W&E – Wayne, Darrell; Ed & Youth – Betty; Prop & Mgmt – Darrell, Wanda.

+Instant Church Directory: Betty moved to renew the 3-yr subscription; Mara seconded; motion passed.

+CCLI License: Mara moved to renew the CCLI streaming license; Donna seconded; motion passed. Pr Amber will obtain more info on the CCS Perform music license and we'll discuss if it's needed for OSL.

+Community Need: Betty brought forward a request she received to consider a donation to a family with young children at WAO. She'll obtain more info and council will look at drafting a policy at the next meeting.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Betty moved to adjourn; Donna seconded; motion carried, and meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. Next meeting: March 16, 2026, at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Wanda Gubrud

January Treasurer's Report

General Account

Receipts

General Offering	\$ 28,967.42
Endowment Fund	\$ 40.00
Project 2000/Building Fund	\$ 260.00
Missions	\$ 30.00
Total Income	\$ 29,297.42

Expenses

Backpack Mission	\$ 1,245.42
Salaries/FICA/Pension	\$ 11,236.30
Utilities/Phone/Internet	\$ 1,241.47
Church Repair/Maint.	\$ 18.21
Sunday School	\$ 7.64
Worship/Music	\$ 73.53
Flowers	\$ 625.00
Office Repair/Maint.	\$ 217.14
Office Supplies/Postage	\$ 101.13
Custodial Supplies	\$ 19.98
Grounds Keeper	\$ 412.50
Bank Service Chg	\$ 3.00
Total Expenses	\$ 15,201.32
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 14,096.10
Net Income	\$ 14,096.10

Other OSL Accounts

General Fund	\$ 74,611.42
Memorial Fund	\$ 23,445.50
Missions Fund	\$ 6,145.44
OSL Bell Ringers	\$ 711.75
OSL Servant Group	\$ 11,267.51
Project 2000/Bldg Fund	\$ 115,272.40
Money Market	\$ 97,841.83
CD#1	\$ 258,749.25
CD#2	\$ 112,383.85
ELCA Investment	\$ 275,000.00
Total	\$ 975,428.95



Good news to share! We received a letter from Pr. Rebel Hurd and the NW MN Synod Hunger Team notifying us that OSL was selected as a recipient of the ELCA Daily Bread Feeding Ministry Grant. Our ministry was award \$500 which we will use to help support our Backpack Program. The NW MN Synod reported there were more than 1,000 requests, and they made every effort to allocate as much funding as possible to support this vital work.

If anyone would like to donate towards the Backpack Program, we always welcome your support. Thank you!

Thank you for supporting The Gideons International. In case you missed it, they visited our congregation on February 15th, and with people's generous offerings, we were able to gift them \$298.00.

Plan ahead!

April is our month to deliver

Meals-on-Wheels!

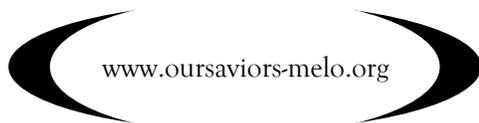
Sign up on the calendar sheet

on the table in the narthex

or Call the office!

OUR SAVIOR'S & MELO
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

220 W JOHNSON AVE
WARREN MN 56762



Lessons for March 2026

March 1-Jesus Washes Feet

Psalm 51:7-12
2 Kings 5:9-14
John 13:1-17

March 8-Peter's Denial

Psalm 17:1-7
Genesis 4:8-16
John 18:12-27

March 15-Jesus and Pilate

Psalm 145:10-13
Isaiah 52:13-15
John 18:28-40

March 22-Jesus Condemned

Psalm 146:3-7
Isaiah 53:1-3
John 19:1-16a

March 29-The Crucified Messiah

Psalm 24:7-10
Isaiah 53:4-6
John 19:16b-22

