

OSL & MELO FAITH CONNECTION

OCTOBER 2025

Our Savior's & Melo Lutheran Churches

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Pastor

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OSL Custodian

Jake Reinier
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Sunday Worship Times

9:00 am Melo Worship
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

Trunk or Treat
 October 26, 2025
 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
 Our Savior's Lutheran Church
 Get dressed up and join us for some
 Trunk or Treating Fun!
BOO!
 Individuals, organizations, and businesses:
 If you are able to participate by setting up
 a trunk, contact Katie 218-791-6794!

VOLUNTEER

NOTE: Bell Choir is looking for more ringers! Practice is usually Wednesdays at 7:45 PM at OSL. Anyone interested please contact Bobbi Mischel at 218-201-0124 All are welcome!

OSL/Melo Quilters meet on Tuesdays from 1-4 PM at OSL! All skill levels are welcome to join in on the fun!



From the Pastor's Desk

These first two months in the Narrative Lectionary give us a lot of stories that contain a similar theme: the theme of calling. We already heard the story of God calling Moses (and Moses needing a lot of encouragement to move forward). We will hear soon the story of the call of Samuel (whom God whispered to in the dead of night), and we will also hear the call story of David (before he became a giant-slayer and was just a kid minding the sheep).

What's pretty amazing about each of these stories is just how utterly unprepared each of these individuals were to receive a calling from God. They weren't explicitly seeking God's call. They weren't possessing all manner of power and skills. They weren't in the middle of doing something particularly holy.

Instead, God called them out of the blue, when they were ordinary people doing ordinary things on completely ordinary days (or during an ordinary night, in Samuel's case). There was nothing extraordinary about them. But still, God chose them to work through to accomplish extraordinary things: setting his people free from slavery; guiding his people in his way; leading his people to victory.

These stories are powerful reminders to us that God can call us at any time he wishes, interrupting our regularly scheduled lives to accomplish his will in the wider world. God always has something going on, and he alerts us when he is ready to make us part of it.

It should prompt us to wonder: is there something God is calling us to do now, as individuals or as communities of faith, saved by his grace? Is he trying to get our attention to join him in something big here in Warren, or bigger out in the world? Even if we don't feel particularly ready, will we trust him in saying "Yes" to his call?

Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Amber Kalina

September Ministry Highlights!



**Rally Sunday at Melo & OSL!
The start of a new Sunday School Year!!**

OSL Sunday School

Installation of Melo Sunday School teachers.



Melo kiddos & Pastor Amber blessing backpacks.



Melo Fall Dinner was on Sept. 7th. A huge thank you to everyone who helped and those who came out for dinner, crafts and bake sale!



Lambs & Lions

Confirmation Sunday October 26th

Congratulations to the students who will be affirming their baptisms this year. Join us for worship on Sunday, October 26, to support and pray for these young people in their continued journey of faith.

OSL Confirmands: Macy Boe, Samantha Horgen, Leo Johnson, Kenley Marquis, Malley Maurstad, & Nora Otterstetter.

Melo Confirmands: Rielly Clark & Abigail Hamrick.

We look forward to celebrating with them!

Confirmation Tea will be held at OSL for the confirmands, their families, and mentors. TBD.

Confirmation



Fall Schedule

7th & 8th Grade

5:45-7:00 PM

Wednesdays-No class on
October 22nd

9th Grade

Sunday October 26th
Noon at OSL

10th Grade

Sunday, October 19th
Noon at OSL



OSL Sunday School kids will sing during worship on October 12th!

NO Sunday School for Melo on
October 12th & 19th

NO Sunday School for OSL on
October 19th

October Acolytes

10/5 - Kenley Marquis & Sophia Wurtzel

10/12 - Malley Maurstad & Nora Otterstetter

10/19 - Camdyn Carlson & Olivia Woinarowicz

10/26 - Confirmation Sunday - Rielly Clark & Leo Johnson

Ministry on the Horizon

OCTOBER 5TH

BIBLE & STOLE SUNDAY

Bibles will be given to Third Grade Sunday School Students and Stoles will be given to Seventh Grade Confirmation Students during worship at 9:00 AM (Melo) and 10:45 AM (OSL)

Bible Study!

Monday, October 6 & 20
at 10:00 AM in the library at
OSL



RURAL REVIVAL FORUM ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 12

Please mark your calendars and plan to stick around after worship on October 12th for a time of guided discussion and discernment led by Pr Melissa Pickering (a Mission Developer in the NWMN Synod) as we begin the process of Rural Revival. Pr Melissa will guide both OSL and Melo in pondering who we have been, who we are, and what God is calling us to be and do in the wider community. This discussion will benefit from having your voice be part of it! Lunch will be served.

*Note: There will be only worship at OSL this day to allow Melo and OSL to come together for these conversations.



It was truly spectacular to watch as Pr Paul Oman painted this mural of Jesus feeding the 5,000. Thank you to those who cooked and served, read and sang, and to those who came to worship.

Make a JOYFUL noise!
Join us
Wednesdays
at 7:00 PM
for Choir
7:45 PM for
Bell Choir at
OSL!
All are
welcome!



October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:45-7:00 PM 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 7:00 PM Choir 7:45 PM Bell Choir	2	3	4
5 BIBLES & STOLES 9:00AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL Sunday School 10:00 AM Melo Sunday School - singing 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45AM OSL Worship	6 10:00 AM Bible Study at OSL 6:00 PM Ed Committee Mtg.	7 1:00 PM Quilting at OSL	8 1:30 PM Lydia-Phoebe Circle at NS Manor 5:45-7:00 PM 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 7:00 PM Choir 7:45 PM Bell Choir	9	10	11
12 NO Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL Sunday School NO Melo Sunday School 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45AM OSL Worship & SS Kids sing, meal and forum on Rural Revival lead by Pr Melissa Pickering, after worship	13 TBD - Worship & Evangelism Meeting Pastor Amber gone for continuing ed.	14 1:00 PM Quilting at OSL	15 5:45-7:00 PM 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 7:00 PM Choir 7:45 PM Bell Choir	16 No School	17 No School	18
19 Holy Communion No Sunday School - OSL or Melo 9:00 AM Melo Worship 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45AM OSL Worship Noon 10th Grade Confirmation Class	20 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM OSL Council	21 1:00 PM Quilting at OSL	22 No 7th/8th Grade Confirmation	23	24	25
26 Reformation Sunday 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL Sunday School 10:00 AM Melo Sunday School-singing/Lesson 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45 AM OSL Worship Noon 9th Grade Confirmation Class 3:00-4:00 PM Trunk or Treat at OSL	27	28 1:00 PM Quilting at OSL	29 5:45PM 7th & 8th Grade go to North Country Food Bank 7:00 PM Choir 7:45 PM Bell Choir	30	31	

October Celebrations

Happy Birthday!!!!

10/2 - Veronica Prickett
 10/3 - Shelly Conely
 Darrel Rindy
 Minerva Schantzen
 Kelsey Schmidt
 10/5 - Annika Magnusson
 Cami Magnusson
 10/6 - Marlene Owens
 10/7 - Josh Johnston
 10/8 - Cassi Hermanson
 Angela Spidahl
 10/9 - Deb Schmidt
 Zach Carlson
 10/11 - Alan Maruska
 10/14 - Jo Sorenson
 10/15 - Dillon Kasprowicz
 10/16 - Ron Leverington
 Remington LeTexier
 10/18 - Mike Cheney
 Rebekah Haugvedt
 Lonna Nybladh

10/19 - Donavon Hamrick
 10/21 - Jeremy Bring
 Bonnie Howard
 10/22 - Marie Owens
 10/23 - Lillian Anderson
 10/24 - Katie Failing
 10/25 - Monica Nelsen
 10/26 - Katie Jo Marquis
 10/27 - Yvonne Bossman
 Todd Dahlman
 Laura Jevning
 Madisyn Knoll
 10/28 - Katie Bolton
 Adam Hermanson
 Halle Sparby
 10/30 - Becky Kasprowicz

Happy Anniversary!

10/15 - Matt & Rosanna
 Kasprowicz
 10/21 - Jason & Jacqueline Clark
 10/23 - Mike & Leanne Novacek
 10/26 - Hayden & Hannah
 Sczepanski
 10/29 - Loren & Deb Zutz



October 5

Lector: Brian Wurtzel
 Ushers: Brian Wurtzel & Josh Benson
 Coffee: Sara Wurtzel & Diane Johnson

October 12

Lector: Brenda Ackerson
 Ushers: Adam Hermanson & Brenda Ackerson
 Coffee: Cassi Hermanson & Brenda Ackerson

October 19

Lector: Bobbie Mischel
 Ushers: Bobbie Mischel & Mike Flaten
 Coffee: Jackie Maurstad & Bobbie Mischel

October 26

Lector: Confirmation Students
 Ushers: Confirmation Students
 Coffee: Cake will be served - Katie & Brenna Benson

Melo Custodians: Sept. 28-Oct. 5 Donnie & Linda Hamrick Oct. 12-26 Kevin Hamrick

OSL Council September Meeting Minutes

Members present: Betty DuBore, Brittney Palm, Donna Miller, Dustin Marquis, Katie Benson, Wanda Gubrud, Wayne Torgerson, Pastor Amber Kalina. Absent: None.

The meeting was called to order by President Katie Benson at 7:00 pm. Pastor Amber opened with devotions from Exodus 16, praying to treasure God's abundance and share where there is scarcity.

Agenda & Previous Meeting Minutes: Katie asked to add 'Service Animals' to New Business. M/S/C to approve the minutes and agenda with the addition.

Reports

Treasurer's Report: CD#2 matures Oct 20. Current CD interest rates/terms for renewal will be obtained. M/S/C to approve the treasurer's report.

Worship and Evangelism: New altar guild members are needed. Joan attended a Poppler's music workshop but was disappointed with the music. Choir and bell choir rehearsals have begun. Next meeting is Oct 13.

Education & Youth: VBS was very successful with 52 kids attending. The format worked well; will plan for 60 kids next year. Parents of Sunday school families will teach every 4-6 weeks. Sunday school will be divided into two groups. Rally Sunday is Sept 21, with kids singing and blessing of the backpacks; pizza will be served. Bible and Stole Sunday is Oct 5. Kids will sing Oct 12. Confirmation Sunday is Oct 26 with seven confirmands. Next meeting is Oct 6.

Property/Tech: The fire alarm system is partially online; some adjustments are needed in the sanctuary. Training on the system will follow. Narthex north window shades were installed. A new rinse aid pump for the dishwasher was installed. Easel and canvas were constructed for the Paul Oman painting. Drop box for the offering was installed in the office door. Still waiting for installation scheduling of the new entry doors; the threshold on north entry doors needs to be improved for wheelchair access.

Stewardship/Outreach: Committee will meet in Oct to set goals. Several community members attended the Pastor Paul Oman 'Drawn to the Word' worship service and soup supper, along with many OSL/Melo members.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Amber attended the Synod Fall Theological conference Sept 14-16. She met with Taya Olson of MCSS to discuss her work in the community. Pastor Amber planned, led, performed and recruited participants for the 'Drawn to the Word' worship service, which was very meaningful and worthwhile. She did 10 homebound/hospital visits and began teaching Confirmation. She continues with her many ongoing activities. Additional activities she's leading are listed in Ongoing Business.

M/S/C to approve the committee reports.

Ongoing Business

+Rural Revival: Pastor Rebel Hurd (Assistant to the Bishop of the NWMN Synod) preached on Sunday, Sept 28 to introduce the subject at both Melo and OSL. Pastor Melissa Pickering will join worship on Sunday, Oct 12. Following the joint OSL/Melo service there will be a guided discussion to explain the program. We will provide a meal for attendees. It was suggested to offer childcare during the discussion.

+Church Financial Planning: Council had a zoom meeting with Rebecca Palmgren from the ELCA Foundation. Endowment committee and Phil Thompson joined the meeting. M/S/C to invest \$275K from the General fund in the Ministry Growth Fund through the ELCA Foundation.

+Sanctuary Renovation: Pastor Amber, Wanda and Randy met with Comstock Construction to discuss options for increasing space, functionality and accessibility. Pastor Amber, Katie and Wanda met by zoom with Comstock and Foss to discuss details of their services. M/S/C to contract with Comstock Construction and Foss Architecture for design services for the sanctuary renovation.

+Church Rental Fees: Fees have remained the same for many years and we may consider updates, in particular rental by non-members. Item was tabled.

New Business

+Church Mutual Sensor Program: Wayne and Katie have been getting emails about a program for water sensors, which may or may not be affiliated with Church Mutual. Wayne will inform we aren't interested.

+NVHC Evacuation Program: M/S/C that if NVHC would need to evacuate in case of fire, smoke, or other life-threatening event, the church will be available to them.

+Augsburg Worship Planning: Sundays and Seasons worship planning is transitioning to an all-digital format. OSL will purchase an annual subscription for the deluxe version which includes hymn access.

+Service Animals: It was brought to our attention that churches and other places of worship are exempt from the Americans with Disabilities Act, meaning they are not legally required to permit service dogs. We support the principle of inclusion for individuals with disabilities and welcome service animals. M/S/C to allow service dogs.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Wayne moved to adjourn; Betty seconded; motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm. Next meeting: October 20, 2025, at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Wanda Gubrud

August Treasurer's Report

General Account

Receipts

General Offering	\$ 5,814.00
Endowment Fund	\$ 40.00
Project 2000/Building Fund	\$ 160.00
Missions	\$ 20.00

Total Income \$ 6,034.00

Expenses

Other Missions	\$ 4,000.00
Salaries/Pension/FICA	\$11,837.64
Utilities/Phone/Internet	\$ 621.91
Pastor's Mileage	\$ 91.28
Pulpit Supply	\$ 559.76
Church Repair/Maint.	\$ 2,541.75
Vacation Bible School	\$ 682.68
Office Supplies/Postage	\$ 283.12
Custodial Supplies	\$ 71.07
Groundskeeper	\$ 181.99
Parsonage Repair/Maint	\$ 1,243.35
Bank Service Chg	\$ 8.50

Total Expenses \$ 22,123.05

Net Ordinary Income -16,089.05

Other Income/Expense 137.45

Net Income \$-16,226.50

OSL Accounts

General Fund	\$ 377,759.48
Memorial Fund	\$ 22,960.79
Mission Fund	\$ 5,892.96
OSL Bell Ringers	\$ 711.52
OSL Servant Group	\$ 11,226.46
Project 2000/Bldg Fund	\$ 95,858.19
Bremer MM Fund	\$ 97,578.20
CD#1	\$ 254,429.87
CD#2	\$ 110,507.79

Total: \$976,925.26

Give Thanks!

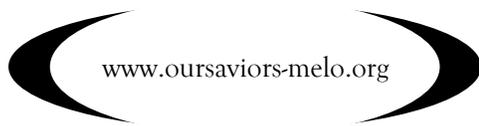


Have you considered joining church council?

It is a great way to give back to your church. New members will be added in January during the annual meeting! If you are interested in learning more about what is involved in church council contact Pastor Amber or one the council members!

OUR SAVIOR'S & MELO
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

220 W JOHNSON AVE
WARREN MN 56762



Lessons for October

October 5 - God Provides Manna

Psalm 145:10-16, 21

Exodus 16:1-21

John 6:41-51

October 12 - God Calls Samuel

Psalm 68:1-4, 32-35

1 Samuel 3:1-21

John 20:19-23

October 19 - God Calls

David

Psalm 51:10-14

1 Samuel 16:1-13

John 7:19-24

October 26 - Solomon's Temple

Confirmation Sunday

Psalm 84:1-4

1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

John 2:13-22

