

OSL/Melo Faith Connection

Pastor
Amber Kalina

Secretary
Mallory Craik
osl@oursaviors-melo.org
Cell: 218-230-8414
Office: 745-4478

OSL Custodian
Jake Reinier
701-740-5299

Sunday Worship Times

9:00 am Melo Worship
9:30 am OSL Sunday School
10:00 am Melo Sunday School
& Coffee Fellowship
10:15 am OSL Coffee Fellowship
10:45 am OSL Worship

A video of OSL Sunday Worship can be seen on Monday at 3:30 pm on cable channel 13 and on YouTube. The service is 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.

Christmas Candlelight Service

**Sunday, December 19,
7:00 pm at Our Savior's**

featuring the OSL/Melo Choir,
soloists & ensembles!
Coffee Fellowship will follow,
join us and bring a friend!



Christmas Eve Services
3:00 PM—Melo
4:30 PM—OSL
With Holy Communion
All are Welcome!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**

Melo
Sunday, December 19th
at 9:00 a.m.
Our Savior's
Sunday, December 19th
at 10:45 a.m.



*Sounds
of the
Season*

Live Nativity at OSL
December 24th at 2:00 pm
Drive by to see the nativity,
hear the carolers and pick up a gift bag



Pictured is the nativity from last Christmas! If you'd like to participate this year please contact the office! 745-4478!

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:
**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**
REMINDER:
**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS
December 19th**

You're Invited

You are invited...

We are so excited for Amber Kalina to be ordained on Saturday, December 11th at 3:00 pm at her home church, Calvary Lutheran, in Perham, MN! All members of OSL & Melo are invited and encouraged to attend. This is such a special time for Amber! Please keep her in your prayers as she begins the moving process and starting here with us mid December!



Following her ordination Pastor Amber will start at OSL & Melo with her first Sunday being December 19th! A formal installation will take place in the near future as well!

Welcome



Greetings From Pastor

"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." - Philippians 1:6

Joyful greetings to you this Advent season!

The season of Advent is one of my favorites on the church calendar. It is a time of preparation. Of anticipation. Of hope that carries us forward toward Christ and to the new possibilities that are ahead. Advent is an active time where we make ourselves ready to live into the fulfillment of God's promises and into God's presence in our midst.

I find Advent to be particularly tangible to me this year as I pack boxes, buy furnishings, and get ready to make the move from Perham to Warren. As I prepare to start my time among you all as your pastor. In one sense, it feels like nearing the completion of a long journey of discernment, education, and practice. But in another sense, it feels like continuing a work in progress that God has been working in my life, and in the life of Our Savior's and Melo.

Even while we are hitting restart on the church calendar and on the lectionary texts that we will hear this year, we are continuing the work in progress that God began in each of us as individuals and as communities of faith. As we prepare again to celebrate the birth of Christ into our midst, let us also anticipate and hope for the new possibilities ahead, the new opportunities to meet and make known the living God in Warren and beyond. I feel so blessed and grateful that we will be able to discover these things together, with God's help.

With anticipation,

~Pastor Amber

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

- 1. *Faith* Father God, it is by Your grace we have been saved, and through our faith— this is not from ourselves, but a gift from you—not by our works, Ephesians 2:8-9
- 2. *Hope* May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Romans 15:4
- 3. *Love* Help us to love because You first loved us. 1 John 4:19
- 4. *Forgiveness* Thank you for being faithful and just in forgiving us our sins and thus purifying us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9
- 5. *Mercy* Let us be merciful, just as our Father is merciful. Luke 6:36
- 6. *Kindness* Let us be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as through Jesus, You forgave us. Ephesians 4:32
- 7. *Generosity* Let us be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, and to give the glory and thanks to you Lord! 2 Corinthians 9:11
- 8. *Compassion* Let us live in harmony with one another, be sympathetic and compassionate, love as brothers, and be humble. 1 Peter 3:8
- 9. *Joy* Let us be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12
- 10. *Salvation* Thank you for providing Jesus who is the way, the truth, the life and the only way to You. John 14:16
- 11. *Obedience* Help us to not merely listen to Your Word, and so deceive ourselves. Help us do what it says. James 1:22-25
- 12. *Life* Thank you for coming that we may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10

Poinsettias Have Been Shared By:

Lowell & Shirley Hamrick (2) *In Memory of:*
 Frank & Anna Hamrick, Edwin Mykleby, Carl & Alice Grim, Ralph & Julie Hamrick

Elva, Jim, Rick, Andrew & Mark
In Memory of: Harold A. Bustrack

Maynard & JoAnn Laymon (2)
In memory of Son Bruce Laymon & Larry and Maryann Laymon

Carol Anderson (2)
In Memory of: Edwin and Fern Anderson
In Honor of: Jeanie Ulferts and Elva Bustrack

LuAnn, Tony, Lindsey, Easton & Evy Johnson (2)
In Memory of: Ralph, Leona, & Denis Knudsen and Wayne Theusch and Robin Johnson

Pete & Virlynn Hanson & Family (3)
In Memory of: Roberta Stengl and Jill Anderson
 Denise Anderson, Gladys & Selvin Aase
 Albert & Ruth Hanson

Barbara Bishop *in Memory of* Robert Busick

Carol, Jesse & Kirby Kilen
In Memory of Greg Kilen Laural & Beverly Wittman
 Roger & Sharon Kilen

Mike & Donna Miller
In memory of Donald Miller and Bruce Laymon

Sharon Nelson and Family
In Memory of Gerald Nelson

Olaf Johnson
In Honor of Carol Anderson

Jim & Belinda Folz and Family
In Memory of Glenn and Doria Johnson

Arllys Trudell and Family
In Memory of: Lyle Trudell

Lillian Anderson
In Memory of: Curtis R. Anderson

Yvonne Bossman & Family
In Memory of: Bill Bossman and Chris Bossman

Lambert Kostrzewski
In memory of: Barbara Kostrzewski
In honor of: Kyle, Katie, Breawna, Desi & Caylee

Bobbi & Roger Mischel
In Memory of: Ralph & Vivian Hanson, Bill & Margaret Mischel

Joan Peterson and Family
In Memory of: Gary Peterson, John & Mae Grega,
 Earl & Edith Peterson



OSL COUNCIL MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER

The November 16th, 2021 OSL Council Meeting was called to order at 7:01 by President Travis Hanel.

Council members present: Travis Hanel, Johny Barbosa, Joan Peterson and Adam Sparby. Mallory Craik, office manager was also present.

Approval of Agenda and Previous

Meeting Minutes: Johny motioned to approve the agenda and previous meeting minutes. Adam seconded. Motion carried.

No Treasurer's Report:

Committee Reports:

Tech Committee: Jim was not present to give a report.

Worship & Evangelism: Joan reported that Bev Clausen has finished the Usher's List. It will be laminated and put in the desk in the back of the church. The Baptismal Fount bowl has been refinished. Discussion about decorating the church for the Christmas season. An announce would be put in the bulletin, decorating would happen on Saturday, November 27th at 10:00 am. An announcement for the newsletter: Anyone who would like to participate in the live Nativity Scene held on Christmas Eve at 2:00, please contact Joan Peterson or the Office. To finish the W & E report, an announcement would be put on our Facebook page stating that the Christmas Candlelight will be on Sunday evening, December 19th, at 7:00 p.m. and that we are looking for solos, ensembles, etc.

Education & Youth: Johny reported the committee was discussing next summer's Vacation Bible School and that they would be doing the curriculum.

Property & Management: Basement wall project was moved up to December 1st. A proposal for the basement flooring was discussed. Due to the amount, it will need to be voted on by the congregation. Jake, our custodian, has asked about the steam cleaning of the church pews.

Adam made a motion to approve the committee reports. Johny seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business: Mallory is working on the church directory. Discussion about the amount to pay Heather for doing confirmation. Travis gave an update on Amber. We still do not know when she will be moving/coming here. As soon as he knows, he will give us the information. Travis reported that Josh Benson is building floral stands that will be used for funerals.

New Business: There has been a text scam circulating on the media. They are asking for gift cards for the needy. If you have questions, contact the church office.

Next Meeting: December 14th, 2021 @ 7:00 PM.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Joan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Johny seconded. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted,
Joan Peterson, OSL Council Secretary



Committee Annual Reports
need to be in to the office by January 12, 2022 or as soon as possible! It is planned to have the annual reports available for pick-up ahead of the annual meeting.



DECEMBER YOUTH NEWSLETTER

December Acolytes

- Dec 5 – Caden & Brenna Benson
- Dec 12 – McKenzie Slusar
- Dec 19 – Max Carlson & Elliot Clark
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve—Breawna & Destiny Bolton
- Dec 26 – Wyatt Bishop

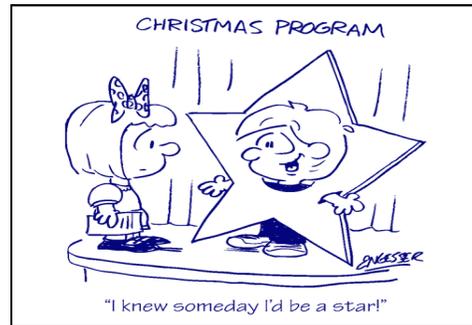
Confirmation

7th & 8th Grade confirmation will continue to meet Wednesdays at 3:30 and 4:45 with a Christmas Party on December 22nd!

Sunday, Dec 12 — 9th grade 11:45 am in OSL Library
 Sunday, Dec 19—10th grade 11:45 am in OSL Library

If you would like to add more meaning and enjoyment to the Christmas season, here are a few suggestions:

- ◆ Spend some time visiting an older relative or an acquaintance. It can be lonely at this time of year when many friends and loved ones have passed on or live farther away. Give the gift of your time and caring personality!! Bring treats!
- ◆ If you have a little extra money, purchase a gift for one of the sharing trees set up at banks and other locations in the community. You could also help with wrapping and assembling the gift baskets for the less fortunate, which wouldn't cost a thing! Contact Stacey Urbaniak soon at MCSS (745-5124) if you have time to help out.
- ◆ Invite a friend to go to church on Christmas Eve or to join you at the Christmas Candlelight service at 7 pm on Dec 19th. You're always welcome to bring friends, and sometimes a friend can experience loneliness or sadness, too. Invite them and offer to pick them up!! You'll be blessed by this, too.



Melo

Program Practices held during Sunday school in December AND **Saturday December 18th at 9am**

December 19th—9 am Christmas program. Please have your child arrive at church by **8:45 am**

OSL

Program Practices held during Sunday School in December and before the program on December 19th! Watch for announcements of additional practices!

December 19th—10:45 am Christmas Program.



A BIG THANK YOU TO HEATHER GOROSKI FOR HER TIME AND COMMITMENT TO THE CONFIRMATION CLASSES!



Fruit Baskets!!

Boy Scout Troop 50 Annual Fruit Basket sale

Our fruit baskets are prepared fresh and available in \$20, \$30, \$40 (small to large sizes). We offer free delivery within city limits.

Open Sale and pickup days are Saturday, December 18th 9:00am to 1:00pm and Wednesday, December 22nd 2:00pm to 6:00pm.

For phone and pre-orders, please contact Sara at 218-779-9429. The order pickups will be at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 220 W. Johnson Ave., Warren. Proceeds to be used for Troop activities and to a charitable cause chosen by our Scouts.

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 - Chase Anderson	Steve Kuzel	20 - Elliott Clark
Austin Wittman	Larry Rud	Faith Porter
2—Taylor Olson	A ~ Donnie & Linda Hamrick	21 - Sharon Carlson
3 - Ilene Slusar	13 - Ashley Helgeson	22 - A ~ Tim & Linda Conely
4 - Ronda Owens	Jessica Carlson	23 - Phil Thompson
Rick Solberg	14 - Linda M. Hamrick	Collins Reinier
Rita Walker	David Miller	24 - Travis Hanel
5 - Milo Monroe	Adam Mischel	Kristen Duckstad
6 - Chase Knoll	15 - Kevin Hjelseth	25 - Danelle Klassy
Jack Sedlacek	Lucas Kostrzewski	26 - Caden Benson
Liz Yeado	Mike Miller	Lacey Riopelle
7 - Hayden Strickler	A ~ Mike & Heather Goroski	A ~ Alan & Lana Maruska
8 - Gerald Hamm	17 - Lambert Kostrzewski	27 - Darren Carlson
A ~ Ally & Justin Johnson	18 - Taylor Knoll	Matt Myrfield
A ~ Pat & Mike Williams	John Walker	Bette Solberg
10 - Macey Boe	19 - James Bustrack	28 - Jessica Olson
Michelle Strickler	Carrie DeLisle	Randy Pearson
11 - Carol Anderson	Alexis Jevning	29 - Betty Graham
Michael Palm	Sara Kostrzewski	Hayden Hamrick
Shawn Spidahl	A ~ Earl & Linda Johnson	Ilayne Potucek
12 - Kirby Kilen	A ~ Peder & Karen Larson	30 - Jacquie Clark
		Brody Knoll



*Among those celebrating milestones in December are:
May God Bless you as you celebrate!*

*Linda Hamrick—65
Ilene Slusar—70
Liz Yeado—100
Carol Anderson—75*

*Heather & Mike
Goroski—20 years*

*Karen & Peder
Larson—65 years*

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



December Servants

Lector

Dec 5—Darby Boe
Dec 12- Darby Boe
Dec 19- Tony Johnson
Candle Light-
Dec 24-
Dec 26-

Usher

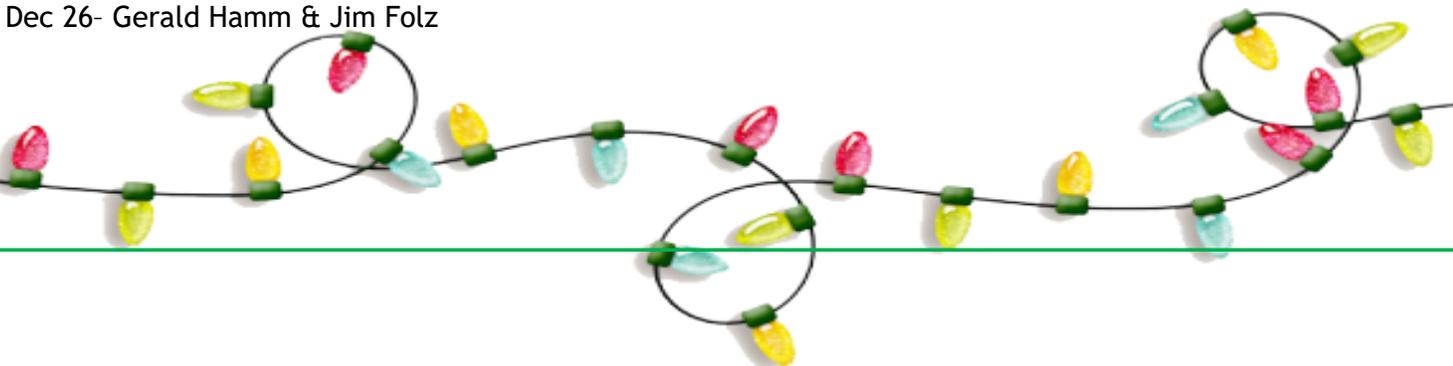
Dec 5- Darby Boe & Matt Vongroven
Dec 12- Matt Vongroven & Adam Sparby
Dec 19- Matt Vongroven & Adam Sparby
Candlelight—Gerald Hamm & Jim Folz
Dec 24- Gerald Hamm & Jim Folz
Dec 26- Gerald Hamm & Jim Folz

Coffee & Fellowship Treats

Dec 5—Amanda Liebersbach
Dec 12—Ashley Vongroven
Dec 19 Amanda Liebersbach
Candlelight—Amanda Liebersbach
Dec 24—
Dec 26

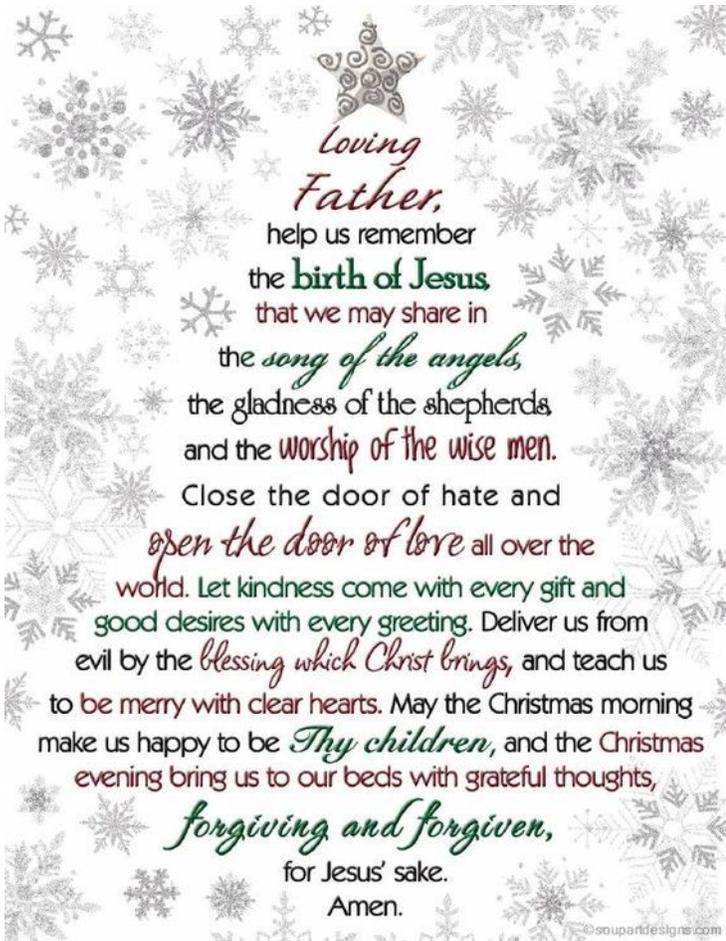
Melo Janitor

Nov 28-Dec 5—Robert & Gail Hamrick
Dec 12-19 Steve & Shannon Hamrick
Dec 26-Jan 2 Tony Hamrick



DECEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 3:30 PM 7th Grade Conf. 4:45—8th Gr. Confirmation 7:00 PM Choir	2	3	4
5 Second Sunday of Advent 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL Sunday School 10:00 AM Melo Sunday School 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45 AM OSL Worship	6	7 1:00 PM Quilting	8 3:30 7th Grade Confirmation 4:45 8th Grade Confirmation 7:00 PM Choir	9	10	
12 13 9:00 AM Melo Worship 9:30 AM OSL Sunday School 10:00 AM Melo Sunday School 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45 AM OSL Worship 11:45 AM 9th Grade Confirmation at OSL	13	14 1:00 PM Quilting 7:00 PM OSL Council	15 3:30 7th Grade Confirmation 4:45 8th Grade Confirmation 7:00 PM Choir	16	17	18 9 AM— 1 PM Boy Scouts Fruit Basket Project at OSL 9 AM—Melo Sunday School program practice
19 Sunday School Programs 9:00 AM Melo Sunday School Program 9:30 AM OSL Sunday School 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45 AM OSL Worship and Sunday School Program 11:45 AM 10th Grade Confirmation at OSL 7:00 PM Candlelight Service	20 <i>Office closed</i>	21 <i>Office closed</i>	22 Confirmation Christmas Party 2-6 Boy Scouts Fruit Basket Project at OSL <i>Office closed</i>	23 <i>Office closed</i>	24 2:00 PM Live Nativity at OSL 3:00 PM Worship at Melo with Communion 4:30 PM Christmas Eve Worship Service at OSL with Holy Communion <i>Office closed</i>	25 Merry Christmas! 
26 No Sunday School 9:00 AM NO Melo Worship 10:15 AM OSL Coffee 10:45 AM OSL Worship	27	28	29 	30	31	



Great Faith Based Christmas Movies on Pureflix—a streaming service - streaming thousands of faith-filled and family-friendly movies and shows!

- *The Nativity Story
- *Hope for the Holidays
- *Megan’s Christmas Miracle
- *Lucy Shimmers and the Price of Peace
- *Shoelaces for Christmas
- *A Match Made at Christmas
- *Charlie’s Christmas Wish
- *Angels Sing
- *Carol of the Bells
- *The King: A Christmas Story
- *The Chosen ‘The Shepard’
- *Operation Christmas List
- *Christmas Angel
- *Miracle on Christmas



I have started entering our members into our new online directory! I can't complete the project without your help! If you would like to be added to the directory please email or text me a family photo and I will get you added! This is going to be such a fun way to keep in touch with our church family!

Also, if you'd like to help with the project let me know! I will need photos of committees, Sunday school, church events etc.

If you do not use a mobile device or computer, don't worry! Once the directory is complete it will be available in print as well!

-Mallory
218-230-8414

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.




OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Treasurer's Report ~ October 2021

Receipts

General Fund	\$	8198.00
Proj 2000/Bldg Fund	\$	1040.00
Mission Fund	\$	70.00
Endowment Fund	\$	40.00
Total Income	\$	9,348.00

Expenditures

Salaries/Pulpit Supply	\$	6,458.25
Bldg utilities/phone	\$	869.30
Worship/Music	\$	814.11
Church Insurance	\$	4,381.00
ODC Custodial	\$	370.50
Groundskeeping	\$	331.50
Office Repair/Maint.	\$	166.32
Office Supplies/Postage	\$	97.52
Parsonage Repair/Maint.	\$	2,786.71
Custodial Supplies	\$	18.87
Church Repairs/Maint.	\$	7,818.30
Bank Service Charges	\$	7.50
Total Expenses	\$	24,119.88

Net Ordinary Income		(\$ -14,771.88)
Net Income		(\$ -14,771.88)

Account Balances

General Fund	\$	316,452.98
Memorial Fund	\$	14,896.36
Mission Fund	\$	5451.99
OSL Servant Group	\$	9,062.59
Bell Ringers	\$	688.55
Money Market	\$	58,099.00



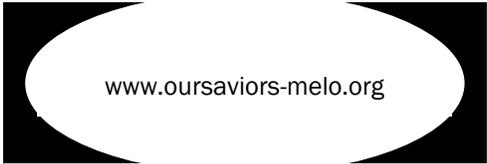
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT THIS
PAST YEAR



October Offering	Simply Giving	10/3/2021	10/10/2021	10/17/2021	10/24/2021	10/31/2021	Total
General	\$ 2,810.00	\$470.00	\$ 2,097.00	\$ 1,991.00	\$ 630.00	\$ 871.00	\$8,869.00
Utilities			\$ 200.00				\$200.00
Postage			\$ 400.00				\$400.00
Tables & Chairs		\$ 650.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$900.00
Proj. 2000/Bldg	\$ 40.00					\$ 50.00	\$90.00
Endowment	\$ 40.00						\$40.00
Mission Fund	\$ 20.00			\$ 50.00			\$70.00
Sunday School							
The Lutheran						\$ 50.00	\$50.00
Total	\$ 2,910.00	\$1,120.00	\$ 2,747.00	\$ 2,141.00	\$ 730.00	\$ 981.00	\$10,629.00
Total to General Fund		\$9,469.00					

Our Savior's & Melo Lutheran Churches

220 W Johnson Ave
Warren MN 56762



Lessons for December 2021

December 5

Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

December 12

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

December 19

Micah 5:2-5a
Luke 1:46b-55
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

December 24

Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14

December 24

Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14



December 26

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26
Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 2:41-52