Volume 66, Issue 10

OSL & MELO FAITH CONNECTION

November 2026

Our Savior's & Melo Lutheran Churches

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All Saints' Day November 1st. God Bless the Memory of:

Donovan Slusar — 6/23/1943—10-26-2025
Lola Fulks — 7/29/1926—11/16/2025
Jan Riopelle — 2/22/1958—12/18/2025
Marlene Owens — 10/6/1938—12/17/2025
Mary Rodriguez — 4/13/1953—12/28/2025
Beverly Maurstad — 7/22/1957—1/27/2026
Hazel Hendrickson — 9/7/1927—3/15/2026
Gail Knutson — 5/10/1958—3/25/2026
Minerva Schantzen — 10/3/1923—5/29/2026
Curtis Myrfield — 6/15/1950—6/16/2026
Marilyn Chruszch — 8/30/1936—6/25/2026
Janice Berndt — 11/24/1947—8/8/2026
And those who are near and dear to our hearts.

Bless the many parted souls who lived their lives with grace. Bless the saints in heaven, gathered in that special place. May we tell their stories and remember all the ways they lived their faith and spent their days. There is glory and reward, even if at first there's strife. Oh, blessed saints, you help us see a path that's to eternal life. May we always hold them dear and know their life and place. May we know their inspiration and aspire to their grace. Amen

Pastor
Vacancy
Kris Snyder, SAM, presiding
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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
Monday at 3:30 pm on Sjoberg's Channel 13

Online
www.oursaviors-melo.org
Search OSL Warren on YouTube
OSL Facebook



From The Call Committee

The OSL-Melo Call Committee held their second meeting on October 14, 2026 at 5 pm.
Call Committee Members Present: Travis Hanel, Kaitlin Barbosa, Katie Benson, Wanda Gubrud, Gary Owens, Sandra Solvik, Darrell Rindy, and Brenna Olson
Call Committee Members Not Present: NA

Pastor Genelle Netland, Assistant to the Bishop, joined the meeting in person today. Travis opened with a devotion.

Pastor Genelle gave a summary of the current situation regarding prospective pastors.

- There are 218 congregations in the synod and about 90 congregations have ordained pastors.
- There are about 150 ordained pastors across 6 seminaries per year.
- There are currently 102 vacancies for pastors between MN, ND, SD. There were 18 pastors placed recently in the three states.
- A lot of congregations cannot afford a pastor. A congregation needs about $100,000 to support a pastor per year (salary and benefits).
- A change for first call pastors in our synod is that they have to serve their first call within the Synod that they were ordained in.
- It is taking on average, 18-24 months, to find a pastor. We need to rely on God's timing.

Pastor Genelle indicated that OSL-Melo is positioned well to find a pastor. It was discussed that we are financially doing well, but we still need to encourage members to keep giving so that we can do God's work. We have an updated parsonage to offer. We have been doing more community outreach. She also said that there are prospective pastors who are watching where we are at in our call committee process. We may need to recalibrate our expectations and focus on what is needed for the Word and Sacrament.

Pastor Genelle provided information on the call process:

- We should aim to complete the Ministry Site Profile or MSP around Christmas time which will be posted on the national website.
- Pastor Genelle also sends the MSP to prospective pastors who can set up a conversation with just Pastor Genelle to ask questions.
- Prospective pastors can then give permission to share their profile with the call committee.
- The call committee can read the pastor profiles and that is "super confidential." The call committee cannot share the prospective names with anyone.
- The committee could then have a zoom call and/or a meeting with the prospective pastor.
- Congregational vote for the prospective pastor. The name is confidential still at the time of the vote and the name is only verbally shared at the time of the vote.
- The council has to decide whether we will consider a LGBTQ pastor or a pastor whose first language is not English.
- Council writes the job description, decides the compensation package and sets up the vote for the congregation.
- It is suggested that the council set aside about $5,000 to put towards mileage, meals, etc., for prospective pastors.
- Most importantly through this process, we need to PRAY!!

Travis closed the meeting with the Lord's prayer at 6:25 pm.
Sandra made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Brenna seconded, motion carried.
Next meeting: Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 5 pm.
Respectfully submitted by Katie Benson

October Ministry Highlights!

God Bless OSL's 2026 Confirmation Class:
Ava, Camdyn, Chandler, Olivia, and Sophia.







Stoles were given to the OSL & Melo 7th grade confirmation class on Oct. 11
Melo-Taylor & Owen (Annabella-not present)
OSL-Taylin (not present)



Melo 3rd grader, Hayden received her Bible on Bible & Stole Sunday, Oct. 11.
No picture for OSL. The 3rd graders that received Bibles were Ziva, Halle, & Otto.
God Bless!!



Kris having the kids attention at Melo's service during the children's sermon.



November Acolytes

11/1 - Kaley Boe & Loxleigh Myrfield
11/8 - Emma Dahlman & Brinley Bring
11/15 - Gabe Marquis & Matthew Klassy, Jr.
11/22 - Taylin Johnson & Kaley Boe
11/29 - Emma Dahlman & Loxleigh Myrfield

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

7th & 8th Grade on Wednesdays at 5:45 PM.
No Confirmation on Nov. 25th

9th Grade on Sunday Nov. 8th at Noon

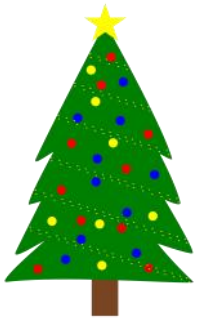
OSL Kid's sermon with Kris Snyder, SAM, on October 25.





OSL Sunday School dressed up in their Halloween costumes and also brought food items for the Food Shelf on Oct.25.

Sunday School Christmas Programs Will be held during Worship on December 20th!





Ministry on the Horizon

Looking for Solos or Ensembles, Vocal or Instrumental, for the Christmas Candlelight which will be on December 13th at 7:00 PM. The OSL Choir will be singing and we are looking for other music to add to the service. Please contact the church office, Katie Benson or Joan Peterson!



Save the Date!
Candlelight Service at OSL
Sunday, December 13th at 7:00 PM
Beverage and goodies served after the service



Choir meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM & Bell Choir at 7:45 PM— If you are interested please join us! We'd love to have you!

We will be collecting donations at OSL in November for Marshall County Social Services Giving Tree.
There will have a box in the narthex for dropping off. All donations are appreciated but a few ideas include.:
*Hats & gloves for ages infant to 18 years old
*Small toys like markers, board games, dolls, trucks!
*Gifts for teenagers such as gift cards, body soaps, things teens like!
*Money is always appreciated and used to buy gifts for kids that are not taken off the community trees!



Lydia-Phoebe Circle
Meets at North Star Manor
Wednesday, Nov. 11th at 1:30 PM

Quilting!
OSL/Melo Quilters meet on Tuesdays at 1 PM at OSL!
All skill levels are welcome to join!



Bible Study!
Mondays: Nov. 2nd, 16th, & 30th at 10 AM at OSL!
All are welcome, please join us!



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 a council member~Betty Dubore, Wayne Torgerson, Darrell Rindy, Donna Miller, Wanda Gubrud, Mara Hanel.

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Holy Communion **All Saints Sunday** **9:00AM** Melo Worship **9:30 AM** OSL Sunday School **10:00 AM** Melo Sunday School **10:15 AM** OSL Coffee **10:45AM** OSL Worship	**2** **10:00 AM** Bible Study **11:00 AM** W&E Meeting **6:00 PM** Ed Committee Meeting	**3** **1:00 PM** Quilting at OSL	**4** **5:45 PM** 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation **7:00 PM** Choir **7:45 PM** Bells	**5**	**6**	**7**
8 **9:00 AM** Melo Worship **9:30 AM** Sunday School at OSL **10:00 AM** Sunday School at Melo **10:15 AM** OSL Coffee **10:45AM** OSL Worship **12:00 PM** 9th Grade Confirmation	**9**	**10** **1:00 PM** Quilting at OSL	**11** **1:30 PM** Lydia-Phoebe Circle at NSM **5:45 PM** 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation **7:00 PM** Choir **7:45 PM** Bells	**12**	**13**	**14**
15 Holy Communion **SS Kids Sing During Worship** **9:00 AM** Melo Worship **9:30 AM** OSL Sunday School **10:00 AM** Melo Sunday School **10:15 AM** OSL Coffee **10:45AM** OSL Worship	**16** **10:00 AM** Bible Study **7:00 PM** OSL Council	**17** **1:00 PM** Quilting at OSL	**18** **5:45 PM** 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation **7:00 PM** Choir **7:45 PM** Bells	**19**	**20**	**21**
22 **9:00 AM** Melo Worship **9:30 AM** OSL Sunday School **10:00 AM** Melo Sunday School **10:15 AM** OSL Coffee **10:45AM** OSL Worship	**23**	**24** **1:00 PM** Quilting at OSL	**25** **No 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation**	**26** **Thanksgiving Day!** 	**27** **Office closed**	**28**
29 **9:00 AM** Melo Worship **NO** OSL Sunday School **NO** Melo Sunday School **10:15 AM** OSL Coffee **10:45AM** OSL Worship	**30** **10:00 AM** Bible Study					

November Celebrations

Happy Birthday!!!!

11/1- Lincoln Montana
11/3 - Jeremy Duckstad
Pete Solvik
11/4 - Sid Carlson
11/9 - AnnaLynn Pollestad
Jack Anderson
11/10 - Lowell Hamrick
Max Carlson
Navy Pahlen
11/11 - Lisa Walker
Dustin Johnson
11/15 - Olin Barbosa
11/16 - Brice Miller
Maxwell Nelsen
11/17 - Bev Torgerson
11/18 - Nora Otterstetter
11/21 - Eric Wittman
Nicole Owens
11/22 - Gloria Thompson





11/24 - Nancy Haugen
John Halsa
11/24 - Alexis Knoll
11/26 - Loxleigh Myrfield
11/28 - Logan Johnson
Macklin Hamrick
11/29 - Heather Goroski
Delores Sedlacek



Happy Anniversary!

11/13 - Ron & Jean Leverington
11/22 - Jeremy & Sadie Bring
11/24 - Bob & Shelly Conely

November Servants!

November 1
Coffee: Kristen Duckstad
Lector: LuAnn Johnson
Usher: Darrell Rindy

November 8
Coffee: Pam Wohlers
Lector: Kristen Duckstad
Usher: Pete Hanson

November 15
Coffee: Clarice Demeyere & Darla Myrfield
Lector: LuAnn Johnson
Usher: Darrell Rindy

November 22
Coffee: LuAnn Johnson
Lector: LuAnn Johnson
Usher: Darrell Rindy

November 29
Coffee: Virlynn Hanson
Lector: Kristen Duckstad
Usher: Pete Hanson

If you are willing to join an additional service month or be the caller for July or August, please reach out to Shelly in the office at 745-4478, Email at osl@oursaviors-melo.org or text at 218-201-2361!

Melo Custodians:

Nov 1-8 Kevin Hamrick; Nov 15-22 Austin & Miranda Knoll; Nov 29-Dec-6 Steven & Shannon Hamrick

OSL Council October 20th Meeting Minutes

Members present: Betty DuBore, Darrell Rindy, Donna Miller, Mara Hanel, Wanda Gubrud, Wayne Torgerson.

Absent: None. The meeting was called to order by President Wayne Torgerson at 7:20 pm.

Agenda & Previous Meeting Minutes: Mara moved to approve the previous minutes (with correction of Call cmte meeting date Sept 27) and this month's agenda; Donna seconded; motion carried.

Reports

Treasurer's Report: Betty moved to renew CD#2 for 11 mo. at 4.15%; Wanda seconded; motion carried. Mara moved to approve the treasurer's report; Donna seconded; motion carried. Wayne will discuss with Amanda the need for more information and request a statement of activity for calendar year-to-date.

Worship and Evangelism: Confirmation Sunday is Oct 25; confirmands will pick hymns, serve communion and usher. Candlelight service is Dec 13. Christmas decorating will follow Thanksgiving. Altar guild: Oct-Bev, Nov/Dec-Darby. Poinsettia donation forms will go in newsletter & bulletin. Next meeting is Nov 2.

Education & Youth: Bible and Stole Sunday was on Oct 11 and Sunday school kids sang. Confirmation Tea is on Oct 21 and includes taking photos and reading faith statements. Kris Snyder, SAM, will confirm five 10th grade students on Oct 25; flowers, gifts & cake will be ordered. Trunk or Treat will be on Oct 25. Next meeting is Nov 2.

Property & Mgmt/Tech: Darrell power washed the church window sills. Parsonage work: tree will be removed and dirt added to the east foundation, Darrell cleaned rain gutters/downspouts, Randy and Darrell replaced garage door weatherstrip. Jim M completed installation of the sanctuary carpet; we have material for the SW entry to be completed in future. Brass plaque descriptions of the stained glass are expected by Oct 30. The exterior door in the narthex janitor closet will be installed. Bob C will do snow removal when needed. ABC Seamless will give an estimate for south church windows and some stained glass exterior brick mold. Mike M will replace front entry security light. Tim Martine will do work on east side foundation/easement with ONB paying for 2/3 of cost; OSL share is $1000. Arrow Lift will do annual inspection on Oct 27. J&N Concrete will give a quote for west side sidewalk and curb repair. It was suggested by a member that it would be nice to update the pew cushions; Council felt cushions are fine as they are for now.

Stewardship & Outreach: Cmte did not meet but are still working on a plan to cover visitation of the homebound. When Darrell or Wayne are in Fargo they hope to have an opportunity to visit Paul K.

Call Committee: Cmte met with Pr Genelle Netland (assistant to the bishop) on Oct 14. Minutes were received by email and will be published in the newsletter. A verbal report was given. The congregational survey is to be completed online/on paper and should be done by Oct 31. Next meeting is Oct 28.

Mara moved to receive the committee reports; Betty seconded; motion carried.

Ongoing Business

+ Financials/Donations: CD#2 matures on Oct 26 and will be renewed; we plan to donate the interest earned from CDs 1&2. A financial gift from Paul K will be forthcoming. We hope to have a Finance committee and possibly a Personnel committee in place by the new year.
+ Gift Policy: Darrell visited with Phil T and he's willing to help with forming a gift policy.
+ Education Wing Artwork: Mara reported that Katie B will select some Paul Oman prints. Pastor and artist Trey Everett is available to do an interactive project with the youth; Mara will schedule it when we have a new pastor in place.

New Business

+ NW MN Synod Constitution Request: Shelly will send our current constitution. When we have committee descriptions updated will send again. We hope to amend the constitution at the annual meeting.
+ Benefit Cost Increase: ELCA Region 3 bishops informed of a 15% increase in ELCA benefit costs.
+ Clergy Appreciation Month: A gift card to Main Street Café will be given to Kris to show our appreciation.
+ Keeping Our Kids Warm: Mara moved to donate $200 to Cindy Barrett/Thrivent in support of the KOKW project; Donna seconded; motion carried.
+ Call Committee Expenses: Pastor Genelle suggested setting aside about $5000 to be available for expenses related to prospective pastor travel, meals, etc. Darrell moved to designate $5000 from the general fund in the 2027 budget for Call committee expenses; Wanda seconded; motion carried.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 8:20 pm. Next meeting: Nov 16, 2026, at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Wanda Gubrud

September Treasurer's Report

General Account

Receipts

General Offering	$ 40,207.00 ($30,000 From Project 2000)
Project 2000/Building Fund	$ 210.00
Endowment Fund	$ 40.00
Missions	$ 30.00
Youth Group	$ 200.00
Total Income	**$40,687.00**

Expenses

Parsonage Utilities	$ 179.84
Salaries/FICA	$ 5,553.90
Pulpit Supply	$ 1,074.08
Utilities/Phone/Internet	$ 534.38
Church Repair/Maint.	$ 746.12
Sunday School	$ 394.13
Confirmation	$ 38.47
Vacation Bible School	$ 118.10
Worship Supplies	$ 395.96
Music & Choir	$ 191.05
Office Supplies/Postage	$ 129.28
Office Repair/Copier Contract	$ 227.63
Bank Service Chg	$ 3.00
Parsonage Repair & Maintenance	$ 28.50
Total Expenses	**$ 9,614.44**
Net Ordinary Income	**$31,072.56**
Net Income	**$31,072.56**

OSL Accounts

General Fund	$ 42,773.00
Memorial Fund	$ 24,316.18
Mission Fund	$ 6,149.52
OSL Bell Ringers	$ 962.30
OSL Servant Group	$ 12,197.76
Project 2000/Bldg Fund	$ 112,318.25
Money Market	$ 98,106.59
Money Market -2	$1,007,960.75
CD #1	$ 268,135.97
CD #2	$ 114,127.34
ELCA Endowment Fund	$ 301,604.85
Total	**$1,988,652.51**

Poinsettia Order Form

*Poinsettias are available for **$25** per plant to decorate the sanctuary during the Advent & Christmas season. (Please take them following the Christmas Eve service.) If you would like to share a poinsettia, please complete the form below.* **Order deadline is December 1st**

Your name: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

____ Red ____ White

Please designate "Poinsettia" on your check (payable to OSL) and put it in the offering plate, or bring or mail to the church office. We will place an order with Evergreen N' Ivy.



Our Savior's & Melo
Lutheran Churches

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Lessons for November 2026

November 1
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
Revelation 7:9-17
Matthew 5:1-12

November 8
Psalm 70
Amos 5:18-24
Matthew 25:1-13

November 15
Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12
Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Matthew 24:14-30

November 22
Psalm 95:1-7a
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Matthew 25:31-46

November 29
Psalm 65
Deuteronomy 8:7-18
Luke 17:11-19

