



A publication of

Our Savior Lutheran Church

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December 2025

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December 2025

THE LOGOS

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I Love My Church!

✠ The Lord loves our church and so do we ✠



Mary Brief with her husband Ron, mother Joan Kuhne, and son Jonathan

Hello! My name is Mary Brief. I grew up in Frankenmuth and attended St. Lorenz Lutheran School and Church. In 1987, my family and I moved to Kingston, where I soon discovered Our Savior Lutheran Church. Coming from a large congregation like St. Lorenz, being part of a small church family was a new experience for me — but one that I've truly grown to love.

I work full time in the Accounting Department at the Tuscola County Medical Care Facility in Caro, where I've been employed for nearly 19 years. In addition, I help a small business in Caro with bookkeeping a few evenings each week. Outside of work, I'm very involved with the Marine Corps League Auxiliary on the local, state, and national levels, which keeps me busy and occasionally traveling for meetings and events.

I enjoy the traditional worship services at Our Savior Lutheran and Grace Lutheran in Fairgrove, (where my daughter's family goes), if you know me, I don't like change. Though I still sneak back to St. Lorenz a few times a year to attend their contemporary service — one of my favorites growing up. I especially love it when our own choir sings and when we have instrumental accompaniment during worship. I absolutely love singing traditional hymns, while the Lord didn't bless me with a singing voice fit for the choir, I'm certain He knows the heart from which my praises come!

I will always remember my first Tenebrae service — it was such a powerful and moving experience. I'll never forget the mix of sadness and joy I felt when the tomb was slammed shut, symbolizing both the sorrow of Christ's death and the hope of His resurrection. It was a moment that deeply strengthened my faith.

Pastor Kilmer, Pastor Sutton, and Pastor Kern have all made me feel so welcome and truly show our members God's unconditional acceptance and love. I've found that in our small church, we have been blessed with some very special people who have made it a true home church for me.

How many times do you feel like Pastor is speaking directly to you in his message? I find that I have that experience regularly. As Romans 10:17 reminds us, "Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." Our church truly lives out this verse, as Pastor Kern faithfully proclaims the Word of Christ each week. Praise be to God for blessing us with him and his lovely family!

This has been difficult for me to write, as I'm a private person and not always comfortable sharing about myself. I continue to pray for stronger faith and deeper understanding, trusting that the Lord is always at work in my heart.

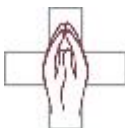


Prayer Concerns

Church Members

Luke Hollenbeck, Bob Stoick, Bob Gaiser, Lela Gilroy, Everlynn Hurley,
Carter Schank, Brian Westover, Ashton Jones, Carmen Kinney, Jerry Priebe,
Neil Schaudt, Ellen Romosier, Gus Schumacher, Kathy Tallieu,
Gwen Hulett, Mike & Karen Wettstein, Virginia Woudstra,
John Hollenbeck, and Fran Clemens

+Please keep the family of Jeff Eager in your prayers+



Extended Family and Friends

Brad Cummings—friend of Mike & Karen Wettstein
Unborn baby fighting an illness—friends of Mike Janiszewski
Friend looking to relocate—friend of Mike Janiszewski
Lori Spencer—Randy Haas' mother
David Johnson—Wendy (Priebe) Johnson's father-in-law
Lennie Chronowski—young daughter of Earl & Gwen Hulett's friends
Nancy Higgins—Bob Stoick's sister
Jack Stoick—Bob's cousin
Deborah Durham—Chris' step-mother
Mary Kay Bell —relative of Judy Fischer
Dennis Ondrajka—Adam's father
Donna Ferguson—Adam Ondrajka's grandmother
Mary Mitchell—sister of Lela Gilroy
Linda Fraley—Lela Gilroy's daughter
Danica Willis —a friend of Mary Brief
Joan Kuhne—Mary Brief's mother
Randy Kasdorf—Shauna Lester's Baptismal Sponsor
Ken and Pam Wood—parents of Kelly Ondrajka
Harvey Kaltz—Debie's husband
Alan Dorman—member of the community who is battling cancer
Family & Friends of Virginia Woudstra: Dennis Davis,
Robbie Kuechenmeister, Richard, Russel & Terri Strauchman,
and Dalton Randall

*Please help us keep this list up to date. If you have a family member or friend listed here who is no longer in need of prayer, please call the church office and let us know.
Give thanks too, to the Lord who answers prayer!*

Serving the Lord in Gladness



December Elders

12/7 Don Schank
12/14 Unassigned
12/21 Marty Brandt
12/28 Chris Durham

Altar Guild

Renea Lambert

Service Music

12/7, 12/14, and 12/28—Caleb Storm and Sam Schank
12/21—Renea Lambert
Wednesday Advent Services—Renea Lambert
Christmas Eve—Renea Lambert
Christmas Morning—Erica Gaiser



Sunday Morning Greeters

12/7 Randy & Brianna Haas
12/14 Jerry & Verna Priebe
12/21 Adam & Kelly Ondrajka
12/28 Craig & Bridget Storm

Acolytes

12/7 Jayson Schank
12/14 Max Haas
12/21 Andrew Theel
12/28 Jacob Laur





In Remembrance

Jeffrey Steven Eager

April 14, 1967—November 7, 2025

Our Savior Jesus Christ has destroyed the power of death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. Let us remember with thanksgiving what God has done through His servant Jeff.

Jeffrey Steven Eager was given life by his Creator and was born on April 14, 1967, the child of Charles and Aileen Eager. In 1967, he received the gift of Holy Baptism and became a child of God. On March 26, 2000, he publicly confessed his Christian faith and was confirmed at Our Savior Lutheran Church. He received the precious gift of the Lord's life-giving body and blood. On September 9, 2000, he received the gift of a beloved companion in his wife Corinne. He was blessed with five children—Keegan, Jacob, Lauren, Joshua, and Liam. God blessed Jeff's life with many friends and loved ones as he served God in his vocations at home, church, work, and in the community. Finally, on November 7, 2025, God blessed Jeff with a holy death and took him home to rest in the arms of Jesus to await the resurrection of the dead.

The Lord gives and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord. We give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ, our Lord for our brother Jeff.



Dear Friends,

On behalf of our entire family, thank you. The loving support shown by so many of you throughout the years that Jeff battled cancer has been a great gift to us.

We also want to express our gratitude to everyone who sent a meal, offered condolences, took the time to attend the funeral service, made a dish for the funeral luncheon, or offered *so many* other kindnesses too numerous to list. These have all been of great comfort to our family.

Special thanks go out to Pastor Kern for everything he did for Jeff and for our family. Special thanks too, to Kathy Tallieu and her little crew of volunteers for organizing an overwhelmingly large luncheon after the service. It was wonderful.

For all these things—and especially for your prayers—we thank you and give thanks to God for you.

The Eager Family

Church Council Report

From the meeting of November 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by President Adam Ondrajka. Present were: Adam Ondrajka, Pastor Kern, Caleb Storm, Chris Durham, Randy Haas, Karen Forys, Tim Forys, Kathy Tallieu, Don Schank, Marty Brandt, and Renea Lambert.

Pastor opened with a devotion from “God Grant It”, based on Psalm 11:3.

The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed. This showed total income for the month of October was \$9,037.46 with expenses for the same period of \$10,300.36, for a net income loss of -\$1,262.90. A motion to accept the report was made by Marty Brandt, seconded by Tim Forys; motion carried.

Pastor’s Report

Since the last meeting:

- Three Baptisms, one wedding, no Confirmations, two funerals (one at OSL), nineteen worship services, one transfer in (Judy Stirret), and no transfers out. Pastor made 16 home/institutional visits. Bible Study at OSL and Peace will focus on the theme of “Creationism vs. Evolution”. The LWML will continue in a study of “Women in the Bible”.

Other duties:

- Youth Groups from OSL & Peace joined in a highway clean-up day which was followed by cider pressing at the home of a Peace member.
- The two Youth Groups will meet at OSL on the evening of November 23rd.
- Pastor met with Rod from CEF regarding a pause on principle payments.
- Pastor and Renea met virtually with Ryan Bishop on a church ministry app. It was informative, but not something we could use right now.
- The Homeschool Co-Op meets weekly for Chapel each Wednesday morning.
- Peace Pre-School has a Chapel weekly on Tuesday or Wednesday.
- Three Adult Instruction classes have started.
- Confirmation classes ongoing at OSL and Peace.

Future planning:

- Pastor will attend a “Best Practices” Conference in Phoenix, AZ in February. Costs for the trip have been covered.
- Update: Hope Lutheran Church on Juhl Road is working to join the LCMS.
- The Kern Family will take vacation time from January 5-14, 2026. Pastor will get a substitute for Sunday, January 11th.
- Peace Lutheran Church is still waiting for a Call List from District.

Continued on next page -->

Elders' Report –given by Marty Brandt

- The Elders discussed finances and Worship Services.
- There is no update on a Stewardship Letter to the congregation.

Board of Christian Education Report – given by Randy Haas

- Board met on Sunday, 11/16/25. Discussed the upcoming “Cookies, Cocoa, and Carols” event (12/7/25 at 6:30 p.m.) which will benefit the Youth Group. Plans are well underway. Our congregation members are encouraged to use the event as an invitation to non-members to attend and become better acquainted with us.

Facilities Trustees Report – given by Chris Durham

- Leak in kitchen sink repaired.
- Spotlights to be installed on the stained glass cross.
- The issue with the boiler switches in the school has been resolved. Heat is now on in the building.

A motion was made by Tim Forys and seconded by Chris Durham to accept all Board Reports. Motion carried.

Old Business

- There has not been an update on a potential Baby Pantry at OSL.
- A “Spring Cleaning Rummage Sale” is being planned.
- The Constitution Revision Committee is still on hold.

New Business

The January Voter's Meeting will include the election of officers. These are:

- Three Council Trustee positions. (Chris Durham and Ian Conley are willing to serve)
- Council President is termed out.
- Council Secretary (Renea Lambert) is eligible for re-election.
- Board of Christian Education – Renea Lambert is termed out. Caleb is eligible for re-election
- Tim Forys is working on recruiting Nominees for positions.
- The outdoor Nativity will be set up after Thanksgiving.
- A motion was made by Karen Forys and seconded by Chris Durham to pause the principle portion of the CEF mortgage as agreed to by CEF, for a period of time that will be reviewed in March. Motion carried.

The Secretary's Report from this meeting was read back to Council. A motion to accept the Minutes as read was made by Karen Forys and seconded by Chris Durham. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Karen Forys and seconded by Tim Forys. Motion carried. The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer at 8:22 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Renea Lambert, Council Secretary

Looking Back at November 2025

The cycle of life in the church



We began the month with the observation of All Saints Day on Sunday, November 2nd. We brought to mind our Christian brothers and sisters who died in faith during the past year. We remembered Keith Donley, Bob Mutschler, Pam Mutschler, and Larry Fifield.

On Friday, November 7th, in His mercy, the Lord called Jeff Eager to his heavenly home. On Friday, November 14th, a Funeral Service was held at Our Savior. The Sanctuary was filled with family, friends, and church members. We give thanks to the Lord for His wondrous love and faithfulness to Jeff.

On Sunday, November 16th, we witnessed the Baptism of three of God's children: Matthew Charles McIntyre, Jr., Paislee Dawn Louise McIntyre, and Emilia Lillian Marie McIntyre. Praise God! Pictured here with the children is their mother Ashlee. —————>



In the early morning hours of Tuesday, November 18th, the Kern family welcomed another beautiful baby girl—Anastasia Christina. Anastasia weighed in at a healthy 9 pounds. She's just adorable!

Anastasia, her mother, siblings, and even her dad are all doing well. Praise the Lord for the gift of new life!



On Sunday night, November 23rd, the Youth from Our Savior and from Peace Lutheran in Sandusky gathered together to decorate our Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. It's looking very festive!

November, continued



We were also blessed to welcome a new member this past month. Judy Stirret was received via Transfer of membership—and we're thrilled to have her with us! If you haven't said hello to her yet, please do. She's sure to be a delightful addition to our church family.

A small—but thankful—group gathered together on Thanksgiving Eve to worship and received God's gifts. That service was held on November 26th at 7:00. Please note that as we move into Advent, our mid-week Services will begin at 5:00 p.m.



We closed out the month with the joyful celebration of the Baptism of Anastasia Christina Kern on Sunday, November 30th. Despite a small snowstorm and a few “technical” glitches that morning, it was a wonderful witness to all of us.



Pictured here with the Kern family are Anastasia' Sponsors, Pastor and Jen Bagnall.

Rev. Bagnall is the Pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Cass City.



Advent

Watch ▪ Prepare

Rejoice ▪ Behold

Coming in December

Advent and Christmas at Our Savior Lutheran Church "The Canticles of Christmas"

Wednesday, December 3rd

5:00 p.m.

The Song of
Mary

"MAGNIFICAT"

"My soul magnifies the Lord..."

Mary rejoices that God lifts
up the lowly and keeps His
covenant mercy -

Wednesday, December 10th

5:00 p.m.

The Song of
Zechariah

"BENEDICTUS"

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel..."

Zechariah praises God for
raising up a Savior who
shines light in the darkness -

Wednesday, December 17th

5:00 p.m.

The Song of
Simeon

"NUNC DIMITTIS"

*"Lord, now lettest Thou Thy
servant depart in peace..."*

Simeon departs in peace,
having seen salvation in the
Christ child -

Thursday, December 25th

9:00 a.m.

The Song of
The Angels

"GLORIA IN EXCELSIS"

*"Glory be to God on high, and on
earth peace, good will toward men..."*

Gloria! In excelsis Deo!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 24th at 7:00 p.m.

This will be our traditional Service, filled with Scripture, Carols, and Candlelight



Sunday, December 7th - 6:30 p.m.

**Our Savior Lutheran Church
6770 Marlette Street in Marlette**

**Buy a bag and fill it with Christmas Cookies
Enjoy a cup of Cocoa and sing some Carols**

Everyone is welcome!

Proceeds help support the Youth Group at Our Savior Lutheran

Serving the Lord and our Congregation

Staff Directory and Board Members

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Kelsey Justin, Secretary
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CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Adam Ondrajka, President
Tim Forys, Vice-President
Karen Forys, Treasurer
Renea Lambert, Secretary
Bridget Storm, Financial Secretary

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Randy Haas
Chris Durham
Caleb Storm
Kathy Tallieu
Renea Lambert

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Karrie Forys
Kathy Tallieu
Katie Laur
Christopher Durham *
Tim Forys
Caleb Storm
Randy Haas

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP

Hanna Kern, Superintendent
Nursery-Grade 1—Erica Gaiser
Grades 2-6—Debie Kaltz
Youth Leader—Hannah Schank

BOARD OF ELDERS

Marty Brandt, Head Elder
John Hollenbeck
Jerry Priebe
Bob Stoick
Craig Storm
Chris Durham
Don Schank
Gus Schumacher
Chris McGarvie



* Chris Durham is a non-voting Trustee

Note: The School Board is no longer meeting regularly