



Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends!

As the echoes of Easter morning's "*Alleluia!*" still ring in our hearts, I want to take a moment to thank you, each of you who journeyed with us through Holy Week. Whether you attended in person, joined us in prayer, or welcomed guests on Easter Sunday with warmth and kindness, your presence and faithfulness helped make this season deeply meaningful.

Our Holy Week services were rich with reflection and hope. On Maundy Thursday, we sat together at the table of grace, remembering that Jesus meets us not in perfection, but in our vulnerability. We witnessed the re-telling of the Passion by our confirmation youth, along with Dale. And on Easter morning, we proclaimed the joy that even in the face of death, God brings new life. As I shared in my Easter sermon:

**"No grave is deep enough, no night long enough,
no despair final enough to separate us from the love of God in Christ."**

That is the promise of resurrection—not just for Jesus, but for all of us. Resurrection changes everything.

I'm also deeply grateful for the spirit and participation in our Wednesday evening healing prayer services throughout Lent. These contemplative gatherings offered much-needed space for restoration and connection. A heartfelt thank-you to our youth who led Wednesday worship on April 2nd. You continue to inspire us as you grow in faith and leadership.

This Easter season also brought with it a moment of global mourning—the passing of the Pope. As Lutherans, we may not share the same church structure or leadership, but we share in the Body of Christ. The Pope's witness on the world stage—as a voice for peace, justice, and mercy—impacts us all. His death invites us to prayer: for our Roman Catholic siblings, for unity among all Christians, and for the ongoing work of the Gospel in every tradition. As Paul reminds us, "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it." (1 Corinthians 12:26)

Thank you for being a church that shows up—with presence, with prayer, and with love. May the risen Christ continue to be known among us in the breaking of the bread, the sharing of stories, and the healing of hearts.

With Easter joy,
Pastor Bunny



Phil and Andy's Pantry

In April and May we will be collecting personal hygiene items. So many come to the local missions needing some of the following personal care products like: bath soap, shampoo, towels and wash clothes, deodorant, shaving cream, razors, tooth brushes, tooth paste, toilet tissue, lotion, feminine pads and any others you may want to bring.



Reminder! Sunday School is every Sunday at 9 AM. All are welcome!!

Youth News:

The last day of Sunday School will be **Sunday, June 1st**. Stay tuned for news about summer events and outings! Do you have an idea for a summer activity for the OSLC Youth? We want to hear it! Please reach out to Hannah, Rachel, or Natalie.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Holy Week festivities! Between Pies for Palms and Easter Breakfast we were able to raise over \$800 for our youth! We are so very appreciative of your support!!



Easter breakfast

Easter People: Living the Surprise

A devotion for the season of Easter

When the women showed up at the tomb that early morning, they weren't expecting joy. They weren't expecting angels. They definitely weren't expecting resurrection. They were expecting grief. They were expecting to tend to Jesus' body with love and spices. They were expecting to carry on with the heartbreak of Friday. But instead—they found a stone rolled away. An empty tomb. And a message that would change everything:

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen." (Luke 24:5)

And just like that, the story changed.

This is what Easter is all about—not just one day of lilies and alleluias, but an entire season of learning how to live in light of resurrection. And let's be honest: sometimes that's not easy.

The women didn't dance for joy right away. First, they were confused. Then afraid. Then slowly—through memory, through witness, through grace—they began to believe. And they ran to tell the others. They became the first preachers of the resurrection. They carried the good news before anyone else did. That's no small thing.

So, here's the question for us this Easter season:

What do we do with the surprise of resurrection?

How do we live like Jesus is truly alive—right here, right now?

This month, I invite you to live like the story is still being written.

To carry hope into places that feel empty.

To trust that God is already doing more than we can see.

To believe that death does not get the last word—and neither does fear or despair.

Because Christ is risen.

And as we said on Easter morning:

Jesus is alive—and that changes everything.

A Prayer for the Easter Season

Risen Christ,
You met the women at the tomb with surprise and wonder,
and turned their sorrow into joy.

Meet us, too—
in our everyday routines,
in our doubts and questions,
in the places we least expect your presence.

Help us to carry your good news with courage and grace.
Teach us to live as Easter people—
full of hope, rooted in love,
and ready to witness to your life and light in the world.

We thank you for the empty tomb,
for your promise of new life,
and for the ways you are still writing the story.

Alleluia and Amen!

Sunday Morning Bible Study Update

Please note that our Sunday morning Bible study will *not* meet on May 4 or May 18. After that, the group will pause for the summer months to allow for rest, renewal, and other seasonal rhythms.

But the conversation doesn't have to stop! All members of the Sunday group are warmly invited to join the Wednesday Morning Summer Bible Study, which will begin meeting weekly at 10:00 a.m. starting this summer. It's a great way to stay connected, go deeper in faith, and enjoy fellowship in a relaxed setting.

Peace, today and always,
Pastor Bunny

You're Invited: Esther Circle Bible Study and Devotion

The women of Our Savior's Lutheran Church are warmly invited to join the *Esther Circle* for our monthly Bible study and devotion. We gather at 10:00 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at Terrace Glen, 3400 Alburnett Road.

This is a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith, enjoy fellowship, and share in meaningful conversation. Books are not required to participate, but if you find you enjoy the study (and we think you will!), we recommend subscribing to *Gather* magazine at gathermagazine.org to follow along more deeply.

Each time we meet, we collect a *Thankoffering*, a way for us to give back and support ministries that help our neighbors in need.

Whether you've been part of Esther Circle before or are just thinking about checking it out, you are welcome.

For questions, please reach out to Ann Larson—you'll find her contact information in the church directory. (Need a printed directory? Just ask the office!)

Peace, today and always,
Pastor Bunny Dillard

AED - Automated External Defibrillator

Our Savior's AED is in the back hallway right outside of Pastor Bunny's office. Open the door to the white cabinet to remove the AED front- be prepared that an alarm will sound, this will alert others that the AED is being used- take the AED to the victim immediately. Once you open the lid to the AED, turn it on. The AED will guide you through all the steps you need to take.

We also have 3 people that have gone through AED training – Lori Hayes, Natalie Fiester and Hannah Plummer.

Join Us!

Did you know OSLC has a YouTube channel! You can help us and our capabilities by click on this link and **click “Subscribe”**; [Our Savior's Lutheran Church - YouTube](#)

Also follow and share us on Facebook; [Our Savior's Lutheran Church CR](#)

And don't forget our webpage; [CRSaviors.org](#)

.... subscribe, share, follow, like, love, bookmark, etc.

More wine? Yes please!

Our wine supply is low. If you would like to contribute funds to be used for the purchase of wine it would be greatly appreciated. Please note “wine fund” on your check and include with your offering. Or, you can leave your donation at the church office. Thank you!

2025 Financial Update

Contribution results for the week ending 4/20/2025:

General Giving:	\$4,080.79
Total Giving:	\$5,107.30

Weekly averages through 4/20/2025 (16 weeks):

Average Actual General Giving:	\$4,402.05 (\$70,432.84 YTD)
Average Actual General Expenses:	\$4,250.35 (\$68,005.59 YTD)

The averages reported above are the averages of “actual” general giving and general expenses, not the forecasts.

Free Document Shred Days

Free chance for anyone to properly destroy paperwork that contains your personal information!

Saturday, May 3rd Corda Credit Union is sponsoring their Community Shred Day from 9-noon at the Kirkwood Community College Linn County Regional Center in Hiawatha. This will be located in the north parking lot at 1770 Boyson Rd in Hiawatha. They may close earlier if truck capacity is reached.

Each vehicle is limited to 3 containers weighing no more than 25 pounds each.

Staples and paper clips are allowed but no binders, metals, plastics or media items such as CDs, hard drives, batteries or cell phones.

Readers

May 4 – Korver Sindelar
May 11 – Rachel Sindelar
May 18 – Sue Clapp
May 25 – Therese Plummer

June 1 – Karen Janney
June 8 – Dale Hovden
June 15 – Therese Plummer
June 22 – Nancy Greer
June 29 – Laurene Case

****Readers can pick up their reading in the
“Reader” mailbox located between the offices in
the back hallway**

Acolytes

May 4 – Korver Sindelar
May 11 – Eric Strottman
May 18 – Evy Fiester
May 25 – Parker Zeien

June 1 – Korver Sindelar
June 8 – Evy Fiester
June 15 – Eric Strottman
June 22 – Parker Zeien
June 29 – Korver Sindelar

Assisting Ministers

May 4 – Natalie Fiester
May 11 – Hannah Plummer
May 18 – Karen Janney
May 25 – Ann Larson

June 1 – Sue Clapp
June 8 – Nancy Greer
June 15 – Natalie Fiester
June 22 – Hannah Plummer
June 29 – Karen Janney

Ushers/Greeters

May 4 – Dave Sampson, Marv Houg,
Tom Zuber
May 11 – Mark & Suzanne Schmitt,
Ann Larson

Ushers/Greeters (cont.)

May 18 – Fiester's
May 25 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson

June 1 – Strottman's
June 8 – Dave Sampson, Marv Houg,
Tom Zuber
June 15 – Schmitts & Ann Larson
June 22 – Fiester's
June 29 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson

Prayer for Pastor

May 4 – Ardy Erickson
May 11 – Derek Sindelar
May 18 – Therese Plummer
May 25 – Diana Emig

June 1 – Arnold Strottman
June 8 – Natalie Fiester
June 15 – Laurie Strottman
June 22 – Ann Larson
June 29 – Nancy Greer

Children's Sermon

May 4 – Pastor Bunny
May 11 – Hannah Plummer
May 18 – Hannah Plummer
May 25 – JoAnn Kohl

June 1 – Hannah Plummer
June 8 – Pastor Bunny
June 15 – Joann Kohl
June 22 – Hannah Plummer
June 29 – Pastor Bunny

Sunday School Teaching Schedule

May 4 – Hannah Plummer
May 11 – Rachel Sindelar
May 18 – Natalie Fiester
May 25 – Hannah Plummer

June 1 – Hannah Plummer – last day of
Sunday School

Serving Our Congregation

Bunny Dillard – Head Pastor

Sue Clapp – Congregation President

David Sampson – Treasurer

Therese Plummer – Parish/Financial Secretary

Hannah Plummer – Children & Youth
Ministries Director

Forrest Green – Music Director

Terri Hodge – Bell Choir Director

Thrivent Investors

If you haven't already done this, please check your account or call your agent to see if you have Choice Dollars for them to donate on your behalf. This does not affect your investments but Thrivent is willing to send a contribution to a charity or non-profit organization of your choice. Our Savior's is on the list for us to receive these Choice Dollars if you would like. Any donations from Thrivent goes into our general funds. I was notified that my Choice Dollars would expire at the end of March so please check soon.

Thank you,

Sue Clapp

Thank you Confirmation students for helping with Good Friday Service!



Images from Palm Sunday





