



Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends in Christ,

I want to thank you from the depths of my heart for the kindness you have shown in these past weeks—the cards, flowers, messages, and prayers following my father's death. Your compassion has been a steady reminder of God's presence and the strength of this community we share.

Grief has a way of humbling us. It reminds us that life, and the people we love, are always in God's hands. As Jesus said, *"Come to me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest"* (Matthew 11:28). I am learning, again, that there are things I cannot fix or control—things that belong fully to God to hold.

Families are messy, and being a pastor doesn't exempt me from that truth. But in your care and prayers, I have glimpsed the peace that comes when we entrust what we cannot carry to the One who can. Thank you for walking with me through this season with such gentleness and grace.

Peace,
Pastor Bunny



Harvest Sunday

This year, Harvest Sunday will take place a little earlier than usual—November 16—so our volunteers have time to deliver your generous donations to the food pantry before Thanksgiving.

Now more than ever, your gifts are needed, both in food items and financial contributions. While tangible donations are deeply meaningful, monetary gifts help the pantry stretch resources even further—buying in bulk at reduced prices and meeting the most urgent needs. To give directly, please visit www.hacap.org/donate.

During worship, we will bless the food, the quilts, and the people who will receive them, recognizing God's vast abundance and the call to share that abundance with our neighbors in need.

Decorating for the Holidays



Please join us when we decorate the church.

We'll be decorating for Harvest Sunday on Saturday November 15 at 10:00.

Then later in November on the 29th at 10:00 we'll be decorating for Christmas. Come help us prepare for the seasons of joy and thanksgiving!



Christ the King Sunday, November 23

As autumn draws to a close and Advent waits just around the corner, we pause to celebrate one last festival in the church year—Christ the King Sunday.

This day crowns the liturgical year with thanksgiving and awe, inviting us to look back on the story of God's love we've traveled together. From Advent's blue hope to Pentecost's fiery red, every color, prayer, and season has told part of the story of Christ's life among us. Each hue on the altar rail—blue, white, green, purple, black, red—represents a chapter in that sacred narrative: waiting, birth, growth, reflection, death, resurrection, and the Spirit's fire. Together, they form a tapestry of faith that reveals God's steadfast love through every season.

In worship, we'll walk through these colors and stories as we give thanks for a year of grace. You'll notice that the service itself feels like a year in miniature—a story retold and completed before we begin again. We'll repeat some of the prayers that have carried us through the seasons, sing songs that have shaped our faith, and listen again to the story of Christ's mercy and reign from Luke's Gospel.

You'll also hear a few brief "teaching moments" explaining *why* we worship the way we do. We'll explore the pattern that shapes every Sunday: Gathering, Word, Meal, and Sending. This ancient rhythm grounds our praise, our learning, our communion, and our call to serve. Every Sunday is a "little Easter," centered on the good news that Christ comes to us again and again in bread and wine, word and song.

The sanctuary will reflect the fullness of the church year. The stoles displayed along the rail will trace the seasons in order, reminding us that all time belongs to Christ.

As we close this year and look toward Advent, we remember that the One who reigns in love is also the One who comes to dwell with us. Come celebrate this day of gratitude and renewal as we lift our voices, give thanks for the journey we've shared, and entrust the seasons ahead to Christ our King.

OSLC Christmas Party

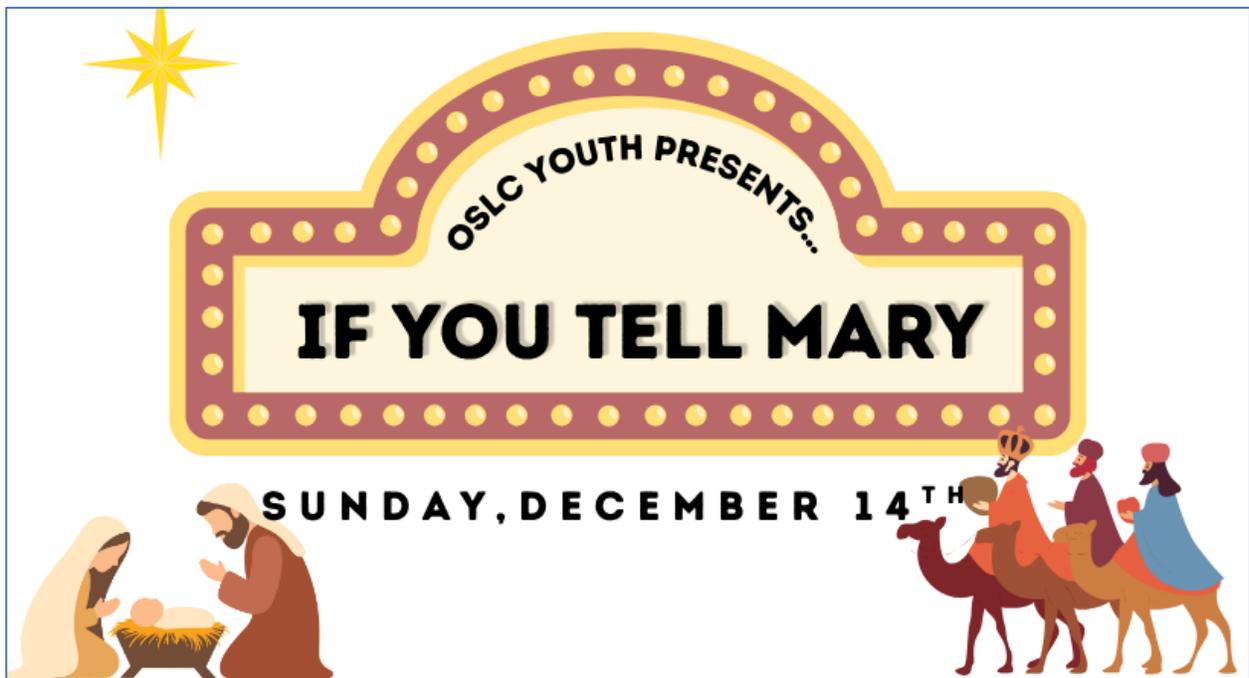
Please mark your calendars. This year's Christmas Party will be held on the evening of Sunday, December 7. More information will be announced. Watch for the signup sheet. The Fellowship Team is working on making this a fun and enjoyable evening for all!



Youth News:

Reminder! Sunday School is back!! We meet at 9 AM every Sunday in the large classroom downstairs! All ages welcome!!!

Youth Christmas Program



All are welcome, visitors too!! So- *If You Tell Mary*, if you tell Joseph, if you tell your neighbors, if you tell your friends... we can pack the pews!

Phil and Andy's Pantry in November



Let's start collecting canned fruits and vegetables that can be part of our Thanksgiving collection in November. These items will be delivered before Thanksgiving to help missions supply dinner items to needy families in our community. It is a time when we can show our thankfulness and these families will appreciate a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner.

The Mitten Tree Returns This November!

Each November, Our Savior’s joyfully hosts a Mitten Tree to support the Linn County Child Development Center, and this year we are pleased to continue that beloved tradition.

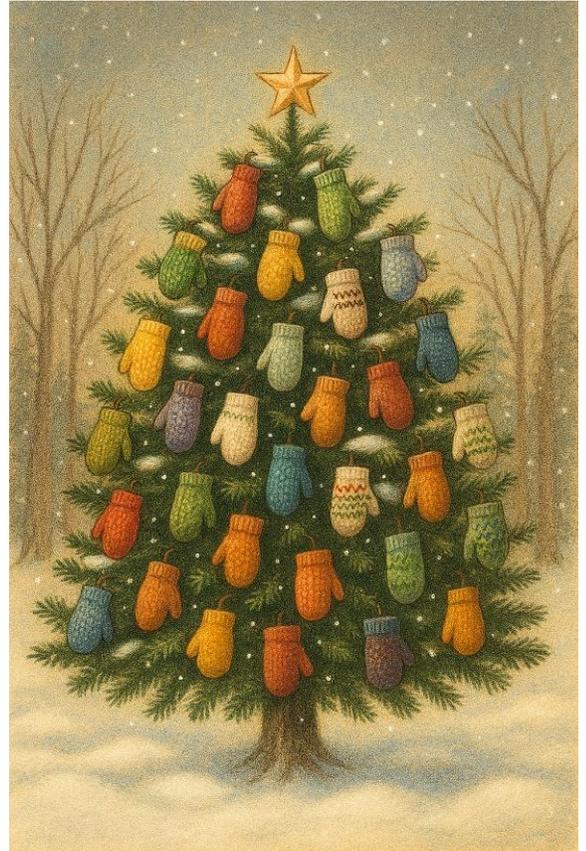
The Linn County Child Development Center provides early childhood programs for children ages 2 to 5, including services for low-income families and children with special needs.

Here’s how you can help:

- Our mitten tree will go up early in November — watch for the official placement date and drop-off details.
- We invite each of you to create or purchase preschool-sized hats and mittens.
- Please avoid gloves — mittens are much easier for little fingers learning to get dressed.
- More info will be shared soon on where to drop off your donations and any timing guidelines.

To our crafty members: you have a head start! Whether knitting, crocheting, or sewing, we encourage you to begin now so your creations can be ready when the tree is displayed.

Thank you for your generous spirit and care for the children in our community. Stay tuned for updates—and happy crafting!



2025 Financial Update

Contribution results for the week ending 10/26/2025:

General Giving:	\$3,492.00
Total Giving:	\$4,696.98

Weekly averages through 10/26/2025 (43 weeks):

Average Actual General Giving:	\$3,838.93 (\$165,073.91 YTD)
Average Actual General Expenses:	\$3,894.63 (\$167,469.04 YTD)

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

Advent 2025

Every year, Advent has a way of catching us by surprise. Even when we mark it carefully on our calendars, it still seems to arrive *out of the blue*—interrupting our busy routines with the strange and beautiful promise that God is coming close once again.



This year, our Advent worship will follow “Out of the Blue” by Barn Geese Worship, a thoughtful and imaginative series that explores how God’s presence so often appears unexpectedly—in wonder, in disruption, in awe. The color blue, used throughout Advent, reminds us of both the darkness before dawn and the deep sky that holds the first glimmers of light. Blue carries the ache of longing and the hope of new creation all at once.

Throughout these four weeks, we’ll listen for the ways God surprises the world. The prophets cried out from the blue of despair and exile, only to discover that God’s promise was already unfolding in their midst. Mary’s ordinary day was interrupted by a greeting that changed everything. Shepherds watching sheep under a midnight sky were startled awake by angelic song. In each story, God showed up in ways no one expected—turning uncertainty into possibility, and silence into song.

Our worship series will weave these themes together through scripture, prayer, and song. Expect deep blues and warm candlelight in the sanctuary, as well as liturgy and music that invite us to breathe and listen for God’s nearness. Each week will draw us closer to the mystery of the Incarnation—the Word made flesh, God dwelling among us in all our human mess and beauty.

To help you carry the theme beyond Sunday mornings, we’re offering Advent Devotions. These short reflections pair scripture, prayer, and creative prompts that invite you to notice where God is showing up “out of the blue” in your own life. Devotional booklets will be available starting Saturday, November 2, and you can find them on the coffee table in the narthex.

Advent is a time of holy waiting, but it’s not a passive kind of waiting. It’s the kind of watchfulness that opens our eyes to what God is already doing. My prayer is that this year’s journey will awaken that sense of wonder in each of us—that as we light candles week by week, we will also be kindling hope, peace, joy, and love within our community.

Peace,
Pastor Bunny



Serving Our Congregation

Bunny Dillard – Head Pastor

Sue Clapp – Congregation President

David Sampson – Treasurer

Therese Plummer – Office Manager

Hannah Plummer – Children & Youth
Ministries Director

Forrest Green – Music Director

Terri Hodge – Bell Choir Director

Readers

Nov. 2 – Pastor Catherine Burroughs

Nov. 9 – Ann Larson

Nov. 16 – Ardy Erickson

Nov. 23 – Nancy Greer

Nov. 30 – Suzanne Schmitt

December 7 – Rachel Sindelar

December 14 – Lori Hayes

December 21 – Eric Robinson

December 28 – To be determined

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

Acolytes

November 2 – Mason Schmitt

November 9 – Korver Sindelar

November 16 – Evy Fiester

November 23 – Parker Zeien

November 30 – Eric Strottman

December 7 – Evy Fiester

December 14 – Korver Sindelar

December 21 – Parker Zeien

Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve) – Evy Fiester

December 28 – Eric Strottman

Assisting Ministers

November 2 – Hannah Plummer

November 9 – Sue Clapp

November 16 – Nancy Greer

November 23 – Rachel Sindelar

November 30 – Natalie Fiester

December 7 – Sue Clapp

December 14 – Nancy Greer

December 21 – Rachel Sindelar

December 28 – Hannah Plummer

Ushers

Nov. 2 – Schmitt’s, A. Larson, & B. Andersen

Nov. 9 – Fiester’s

Nov. 16 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson,
Bob Sindelar, Rachel Sindelar

Nov. 23 – Strottman’s

Nov. 30 – D. Sampson, M. Houg, T. Zuber

Dec. 7 – Schmitt’s, A Larson, & B Andersen

Dec. 14 – Fiester’s

Dec. 21 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson,
Bob Sindelar, Rachel Sindelar

Dec. 28 – Strottman’s

Prayer for Pastor

November 2 – Arnold Strottman
November 9 – Natalie Fiesster
November 16 – Laurie Strottman
November 23 – Ann Larson
November 30 – Nancy Greer

December 7 – Derek Sindelar
December 14 – Youth Program
December 21 – Lori Hayes
December 28 – Lessons & Carols

Greeters

November 2 – Marv Gerjets
November 9 – Sue Clapp
November 16 – Suzanne Schmitt
November 23 – Ardy Erickson
November 30 – Ann Larson

December 7 – Marv Gerjets
December 14 – Al Johnson
December 21 – Bob Sindelar
December 28 – Ann Larson

Children's Sermon

November 2 – Beth Anderson
November 9 – Hannah Plummer
November 16 – Pastor Bunny
November 23 – Beth Anderson
November 30 – Hannah Plummer

December 7 – Pastor Bunny
December 14 – Hannah Plummer
December 21 – Beth Anderson
December 28 – Lessons & Carol's

Sunday School Teachers

November 2 – Natalie Fiester
November 9 – Rachel Sindelar
November 16 – Hannah Plummer
November 23 – Natalie Fiester
November 30 – Rachel Sindelar

December 7 – Natalie Fiester
December 14 – Hannah Plummer
December 21 – Rachel Sindelar
December 28 – No Sunday School

WARM HEARTS, WARM HANDS

Our Savior's Mitten Tree

WHAT WE'RE ACCEPTING:

Mittens

-mittens are preferred over gloves since they are easier to get on little hands!

Scarves

Hats

SIZE: KIDS AGED 2 - 5



The Linn County Child and Youth Development Center provides early childhood programs among many other services to families with low incomes and children with special needs so parents can hold employment or participate in college or job training.

Photos

from the Children's sermon



and Sunday School.



OSLC Parking Lot

Sealcoating and line painting of parking lot completed!

