



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

1326 1st Ave N., Great Falls MT
A congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

January 2026 Newsletter *God's Work—Our Hands!*

In This Issue

**Annual Meeting
January 25**

**Family Promise
Opportunity**

**Come Hear the
New Bishop of
Montana Synod**

**Our Savior's Lutheran
Worships each Sunday at
10:00 a.m.
with Refreshments and
Fellowship in the Church
basement following
services.**

Office Hours are
Mon. & Wed., 9:00-1:00

Contact us at
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officeoslcgf@gmail.com

Visit us on the Web at:
oslgreatfalls.org

Staff

- Kerrie Ramstead —
Council President
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- Ellen Forslund —
Worship & Music
Director
- Bonnie Knight—Office
Administrative Assistant
- Colin Maynard—
Custodian

From the Council President

As 2025 comes to an end, my time as Council President also comes to an end. I am so humbled and blessed to have had this experience. When I was first elected to be president, it was way outside of my comfort zone. Thankfully I had a pastor and council to help guide me. The first year was pretty easy, but the second year has been a bit more of a challenge. We have struggled with finances and although we are currently in a better position financially it has come with a cost. First, Pastor Eric graciously cut back his hours to help us financially, for which I am grateful. But in the end, family obligations nudged him into retirement. Although we were sorry to see him go, I believe we are also happy that their family is enjoying the blessing of time together. His retirement has brought us to a new beginning.

We are currently in the process of calling a new pastor. Thank you to the Call Committee for all your hard work and dedication to the process. We all pray that God will bring us the person we need to guide and support us, as we continue our work in this congregation and in the community, so that we may be a blessing to all with whom we come in contact.

During this time of waiting we have been blessed by two wonderful LMAs and several others, who along with our great Worship leaders have led us in meaningful worship each Sunday. We also have great support from our Secretary, Treasurer and Maintenance staff who keep things running smoothly from week to week. Thank you for your dedication. This has certainly been a learning experience and I am ready to step back into my comfort zone working in the background. Thank you all for your support and encouragement.

Blessings to you all,
Kerrie Ramstead

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee is proud to announce that our Ministry Site profile, prepared by the committee was approved for posting by the Bishop's office. That means that our profile is available throughout the ELCA and listed on the "Current Openings" page of the ELCA website. Let's all pray for some great applicants.

Our Savior's Events during January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 28 10:00 Worship	December 29	December 30	December 31 7:30 Men's Sq.	1 New Year's Day	2	3
4 10:00 Worship	5 1:00 Human Concerns 7:00 Property & Finance Cmt	6	7 7:30 Men's Sq.	8 9:30 Quilters and Knitters	9	10
11 9:00 Choir Practice 10:00 Worship	12 1:00 p.m. Human Concerns 7:00 p.m. Property and Finance	13 5:30 Worship and Music	14 7:30 a.m. Men's Square	15	16	17
18 10:00 Worship	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20	21 7:30 a.m. Men's Square 7:00 Council	22 9:30 Quilters and Knitters	23	24
25 9:00 Choir Practice 10:00 Worship Annual Meeting <i>Change for Change</i>	26 6:30 Book Club, Etc.	27	28 7:30 a.m. Men's Square 1:15 Prayer Chain	29	30 Game Night !	31

Celebrating January Birthdays (Known to the Office)

1/1	Ryan Bredeson	1/15	Alex Kojetin
1/3	Lance Amato	1/16	Bruce Mauer
1/8	Tim Sanne	1/17	Duane Dockter
1/9	Lorraine Myhr	1/18	Brandon Graff
1/10	Charlee Bayreuther	1/20	Judy Erickson
1/11	Shane Pacini	1/22	Cori Erickson
1/12	Steve Paugh-Leuzinger	1/23	Tiler Lewis
1/14	Joshua Kirkhart		Emily Maynard
	Jennifer Molyneaux	1/25	Rebecca Andersen
	Sarah Putzker		Brayden Maynard
	Teresa Shumaker	1/26	Jon Hogenson
			Lynne Turville
		1/27	Carole Miller
		1/28	Trista Lassila
		1/30	Angie Goroski
			Bill Sandaker

QUILTS DONATED

Just in time for Christmas,
the OSLC Quilters delivered quilts to the following:
Great Falls Fire Department
Grace Home
Grace Haven
Alliance for youth
Family Promise

FISH Update

On behalf of FISH, thank you for your kind and generous support. Your love and concern make this worthwhile organization possible. You have been generous to FISH in the following ways: contributing to the Town Pump challenge, volunteering at FISH when your week is scheduled, donating food, supporting FISH with financial gifts, helping and attending the Loaves & Fishes dinner, and praying for our continued success in feeding needy families. With your help FISH did receive the \$25,000 for matching funds.

On behalf of the Board of directors of FISH, thank you again for all your support and your partnership in the FISH program this past year.

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
FISH Board of Directors*

1st Quarter Change for change

Alliance for Youth will be the recipient of the 1st Quarter change for Change. They are an organization that cares for and supports homeless and at-risk youth in our community. Their drop-in center provides snacks and meals, a place to work and get help with homework, showers, laundry services, and more. Watch for the Change for Change can at the back of the church on the last Sunday of each month. Your change can make a positive impact for vulnerable youth in our community.

Thank you, The Human Concerns Committee

Serving this January

January 4th

Usher: Sanna Beerman
Greeter: Juanita Hogenson
Reader: Kathy Maynard
Altar Guild:: Cherryl Batchelor, Bonnie Knight
Fellowship: Tyler Gunderson & Casey
Offering Collector: Council Member
Counters: Joyce Morgan, Judy Spilde
Pianist/Organist: Michelle Payton
Cantor: Ellen Forslund
Officiating: Jodie Tooley, LMA

January 11th

Usher: Robin Sainsbury
Greeter: Pat Orham
Reader: Volunteer or Pastor
Altar Guild: Cherryl Batchelor, Bonnie Knight
Fellowship: Tyler Gunderson & Casey
Offering Collector: Council Member
Counters: Joyce Morgan, Judy Spilde
Pianist/Organist: Michelle Payton
Cantor: Ellen Forslund
Officiating: Bishop Ben Quanbeck
and Jim Carlson, LMA

January 18th

Usher: Emil Vanni
Greeter: Lilli Milton
Reader: Volunteer or Pastor
Altar Guild: Cherryl Batchelor, Bonnie Knight
Fellowship: Tyler Gunderson & Casey
Offering Collector: Council Member
Counters: Joyce Morgan, Judy Spilde
Pianist/Organist: Michelle Payton
Cantor: Ellen Forslund
Preaching: Jim Carlson, LMA

January 25th

Usher: Kerrie Ramstead
Greeter: Jerry Ramstead
Reader: Volunteer or Pastor
Altar Guild: Bonnie Knight, Cherryl Batchelor
Fellowship: Tyler Gunderson & Casey
Offering Collector: Council Member
Counters: Joyce Morgan, Judy Spilde
Pianist/Organist: Michelle Payton
Cantor: Ellen Forslund
Officiating: Jim Carlson, LMA

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

1326 1st Ave N
Great Falls, MT 59401

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Family Promise Opportunity

Family Promise of Great Falls has approached the Church Council with an opportunity that may be mutually beneficial for both Family Promise and Our Savior's. They are interested in renting part of our building to provide additional housing options for the families that they serve.

We have discussed using the top floor of the Education Wing. To start, we have discussed providing a safe space for overnight with the families using the Family Promise offices at Central Christian during the day for support services, showers, laundry, etc. There are many details to work out to see if it would even be a viable situation for both of us. **Nothing will happen without the approval of the congregation.**

I would like to take a vote at the Annual Meeting to see if the congregation has an interest in pursuing this opportunity. If so, we will ask Family Promise to present a formal proposal for our consideration. If you have questions, please contact any of the Church Council Members.

Kerrie Ramstead, Council President

Come Hear the New Bishop of the Montana Synod

Bishop Ben Quanbeck will be joining us for service on January 11, 2026. After service, he will be meeting with the Call Committee as they continue to work to find our next pastor.

1st Quarter Special Offering

Family Promise is the recipient of the 1st Quarter Special Offering. The motto of Family Promise is ending childhood homelessness, one family at a time. Family Promise provides a number of services to help families find and sustain housing, including emergency shelter, eviction prevention and case management. They provide a safe place for families to get back on their feet. Not a hand out, but a hand up.

A speaker from Family Promise will be with us on February 8 to share more on their mission followed by a free-will offering at the end of service. If you are able to make a donation on that day, please make checks to Family Promise. If you are unable to attend services on that Sunday and would like to make a donation, you may make checks out to Our Savior's with Family Promise in the memo, and we will forward it on to Family Promise. Thank you for your generosity to the community programs that we have brought forward for your support.

The Human Concerns Committee

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting is on January 25. Please plan to stay for the meeting which will be immediately after the service. Your input on the business of the congregation is important and appreciated.