



February

newsletter

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PASTOR'S COLUMN

Greetings Members and Friends of Our Lord's Lutheran Church!

My name is Pastor Stephanie Doeschot, but for simplicity's sake, please feel free to call me Pastor Stephanie. I am delighted to serve as your Interim Pastor in the coming months. I live in Columbia, Illinois with my husband of nearly 48 years. We have three sons who with their wives and children, live near us so we are privileged to see them often and to periodically take care of one or more of the five grandchildren they have brought into our lives.

Prior to coming to Our Lord's, I most recently served as the Program Administrator for the Lutheran School of Theology, providing online classes for lay and clergy alike. People from Central Southern Illinois Synod and Central States Synod (Missouri and Kansas) took our classes for personal enrichment or for credit towards being trained as Synodically Authorized Ministers in this synod, and the equivalent designation in Central States. Your own Pastor John Lottes had been involved in Lutheran School of Theology as well over the years, and his contributions were much appreciated.

I have served as an Interim Pastor for one other church, Christ Lutheran Church in Webster Groves, MO. That was for their entire transition period and it was full-time, so I am learning the ropes with you as I step into your Discover and Invite process well underway and serve in a half-time position. My prayer is for the Lord to use me as the resource person and pastor that is needed for this stage of Our Lord's life. I look forward to meeting each one of you and sharing the love of God in Christ in our journey together.

Pastor Stephanie
pastorstephanie@ourlords.org or 314.375.6340

Ash Wednesday, February 18

Ashes to Go 3:30-5:30 pm
Worship Service 6:30 pm

Holden Evening Prayer Services

February 25, March 4, 11, 18, & 25
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm



**OUR LORD'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

† Coming Together † Growing in Faith †
† Serving the Lord †

THE SPIRIT OF OUR LORD'S NEWS
60th Anniversary Year!

February 2026 | Volume 60, No. 2
A PUBLICATION OF OUR LORD'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
www.ourlords.org

FEBRUARY SCRIPTURE READINGS & WORSHIP SERVICES

January 31 & February 1 4th Weekend of Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

February 7 & 8 5th Weekend of Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]
Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]
Matthew 5:13-20

February 14 & 15

Transfiguration

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2
Psalm 99 (alternate)
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
Saturdays at 5 pm
Sundays at 9 am

Saturday and Sunday services
will be livestreamed.

February 18 Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Isaiah 58:1-12 (alternate)
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 21 & 22

1st Week of Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

February 25

Holden Evening Prayer Service

February 28 & March 1

2nd Week of Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

Listen to services using your phone or tablet!
Scan the QR code or download AudioFetch on
Google Play or iTunes.



FEBRUARY GIVING EMPHASIS: COUGAR CUPBOARD (SOUPER BOWL OF CARING)

Cougar Cupboard Food & Essentials Pantry

The Cougar Cupboard is a non-profit food pantry located at SIUE serving students, faculty, and staff members. The Cougar Cupboard's food and toiletry items are supported entirely through donations.

The mission is to fight food insecurity and hunger on the SIUE campus, create connections within our community, and to support our clients through empowerment and self-determination. They offer clients an individualized and dignified shopping experience with convenience and anonymity. This allows students, faculty, and staff members to have equitable access to food and supportive services.

Contributions can be made by check (please note "Cougar Cupboard" in the memo line), or by using your smart phone and following the QR code which takes you to the OLLC giving page, select "Monthly Giving Emphasis" to make a donation.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



THE CALL PROCESS: UPDATE

The Discovery and Invite (D & I) Committee first met in September to begin the call process using a guide for completing the Ministry Site Profile. The team is currently evaluating responses offered by the congregation for Step 5, there are 7 steps in the process. The team is planning to have the 7 steps completed by March and the draft of the MSP to the church council for review shortly thereafter. Please keep the Discover & Invite team in your prayers as they continue in their ministry to the congregation.

Pastor Amy Zietlow will be at Our Lord's on February 21 & 22. During her time at OLLC she will meet with the Discover & Invite Team and the Church Council. Pastor Amy will preach during both services and will be available to answer questions from the congregation about the call process. Pastor Amy's schedule at OLLC will be shared later this month.

Our Lord's Lutheran Church presents...

Spaghetti Dinner & Valentine's Concert

"Musical reflections on love in all its forms."

Musicians:

Peter Billing
Sharifa Black
Olivia Cross
Jahlil Johnson
Benji Maynard

Time & Location:

Dinner: 6 pm
Concert: 7 pm
OLLC Fellowship Hall
Saturday, February 14
150 Wilma Drive
Maryville, IL 62062

Admission: \$20/ticket (12 & under free)

Tickets may be purchased in advance before & after worship services, through the church office or at the door (while they last!).
All proceeds after expenses will go to Cougar Cupboard.

All are welcome!

Assistance with room setup, food prep, serving and cleanup.
Contact Karen Cummings-Larson to help with the Spaghetti Dinner and Valentine's Day Concert.

**OLLC Crafters to host
Hope in Every Stitch
Sew-a-thon
to Support Girls' Hygiene**

"For we are God's handiwork, created to do good works."
Ephesians 2:10



**March 21, 2026, 9am - 2 pm
(OLLC Fellowship Hall)**

No sewing experience needed to participate.

Help is needed to assist with food service, cutting, stacking, ironing, sewing, applying snaps, and many other non-skilled jobs.

Lunch will be served. More information will follow as we continue planning for the event.

Notify Karen Cummings-Larson with questions & how you can assist with this project.

SERVING OUR LORD'S



OLLC serves SOS February 10th

Assistance with preparation and serving the meal will be needed in January. Signup sheets will be available in the narthex.

Donations to support OLLC S.O.S. can be given via check, cash, or note "S.O.S." in the memo line. If you have any questions contact Gail Jorgenson or Julie Preston.

**Worker Bees
Saturday, February 7th**



**Breakfast 7:00 am,
Red Apple Restaurant; Church 8:00 am**
If you plan on attending, please confirm by email or text to Chuck Pugh.

MUSIC AT OUR LORD'S

Chancel Choir & Handbell CHOIR

Chancel Choir, Thursdays, 5:00 pm
Chancel Choir members needed!
Handbell Choir, Thursday, 6:00 pm

Contact Addie Mays for additional information at
love2haveu@ourlords.org

Praise BAND

REHEARSALS: Saturdays 3:30 pm
PERFORMANCES: Saturdays 5:00 pm

Contact Olivia Cross for additional information.
oecross@gmail.com



Congregation Game Afternoon Fellowship Hall

3:00 PM-
5:00 PM

Bring your favorite game, bring a friend, and bring a snack to share!

February 8
March 8
April 12

OUR LORD'S CRAFTERS

Crafters will next meet **February 25th, noon-3:00 pm**. Bring the latest project you are working on to share with the group. Contact Kathy Nehrt with questions.

SERENDIPITY BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet **February 16th at 11:30 am** in the LC Conference Room. We will be discussing *Handle With Care*, by Jodi Picoult. This is a very informal group that enjoys reading and discussion and having fun together. Would love to have you join us.

EDUCATION AT OLLC

- **Pre-School--Kindergarten Sunday School** - Sundays in the Life Center in Room 2 at 10:15 am!
- **Elementary Sunday School (grades 1-5)** – Sundays in the Life Center in Room 4 at 10:15 am!
- **Confirmation Class (grade 6-8)** - We will have classes on every other Sunday and we will continue with the curriculum from Faith Inkubators. Each session we will cover two lessons and break for a meal between the lessons. We will meet in the Worship Center. Confirmation meets **February 1** but may meet other Sundays in February as well. Please read the weekend announcements for additional information.
- **Questions Bible Study** - Mondays at 10:00 am in the Life Center Conference Room. Questions Bible Study is studying the book of Genesis. Everyone is welcome!
- **Feeding the Soul** - Wednesdays at 3:00 pm in the Worship Center Fellowship Hall. The group recently finished reading and discussing "Hiding God In Our Heart" – an in-depth study of popular Bible passages. The next discussion series will be decided in the next few weeks. Join the group and be a part of the discussion.
- **Morning Glories Bible Study** - Prayer is an important part of our relationship with God, and one of the ways we respond to God speaking in our lives. At the same time, we may carry all kinds of baggage or heavy questions about prayer: Am I doing it "right?" Do I pray enough? Is prayer always done with words? This two-part Bible study looks to Scripture as a guide to explore some different ways we can pray with our bodies—and with the body of the earth. In February we will begin "Embodied prayer" by the Rev. Liv Larson Andrews.

Morning Glories meets 2nd and 4th Thursday each month at 10:00 am in the Worship Center Fellowship Hall.

All ladies are welcome!



YOUR INVITED!

Need a break from winter? Wednesday, February 11, come spend an evening in Costa Rica!

Erick and Karen Larson will take us on a photo journey to see the birds, flowers, and scenery of sunny, beautiful Costa Rica. It will be a real treat to spend time with our world traveling photographers. 7:00 at Our Lord's.

Suzuki Student concert on February 21st, 2pm-3pm. at Meridian Village.

Come and see Will and Mara Johnson and others perform in the concert.

LOOKING AHEAD

MARCH

- March 4, 11, 18, 25 - Holden Evening Prayer Services
- March 8 - Daylight Savings Time Ends
- March 10 - OLLC Serves SOS
- March 21 - **"Hope in Every Stitch"**
- March 29 - Palm Sunday

March Giving Emphasis:
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

APRIL

- April 2 - Maundy Thursday
- April 3 - Good Friday
- April 5 - Easter Sunday
- April 6 - Easter Monday - Church office closed
- April 14 - OLLC Serves SOS
- April 15 - Tax Day

April Giving Emphasis:
Collinsville Faith in Action

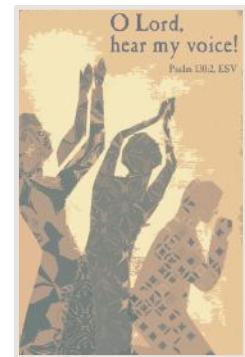
MAY

- Confirmation - date to be determined
- May 10 - Mother's Day
- May 17 - OLLC Congregational Picnic
- Last day of Sunday School
- May 25 - Memorial Day, Church office closed

May Giving Emphasis:
OLLC Vacation Bible School

PRAYER CONCERNS

Everyone listed here is important to a person of the congregation. Please include them in your praying throughout the week so that they know and feel God's power and presence. We will usually keep names on this list for three to four weeks. Please let us know if an individual should be removed before then or if there is a change in their condition that requires ongoing prayer. Member names may be listed for much longer periods of time



CONGREGATION MEMBERS

Linda Spencer
Brian Kassing
Don Klingsick
Rod Orr
Joyce Tatjenhorst
Dave Chaffee
Mike Williams
Emily Callahan
JoAnn Hartke
Nicole Williams

Keith Jensen
Lisa White
Jackie Schlonat
Sara Davidson
Jim Trucano
Loretta Williams
Vicki Lottes
Ethan Baczewski
Nona Echevarria
Irene Vanhooser

PRAY FOR THOSE THAT HAVE DIED & FAMILIES THAT ARE GRIEVING

The Family and Friends of Martha Hahnenkamp (aunt of Brian Hartke).
The Family and Friends of Georgian Funk (mother of Deb Ackerman).
The Family and Friends of Barb Champ (grandmother of Addie Mays).

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Shelley Bruntjen
Ken Bunetic
Bob Dunn
Janet Borowitz
Marilyn Wolfe
Nancy Easton
Tate Buckhaus
Dan & Martha
Jim & Mary Barker
Joe
Elaine Kendall
Brie Jenkins
Pearl
Ted F.
Michelle Simms
Glen Roth
Marguerite Tilashalski

JoAnne Johnson
Joan Truckenbrod
Aaron Travis
Terri
Sherry Echo Hawk Talac
Donna & Harry Schlechte
Mariella Smity
Peg Meldi
Sandy Halama
Ken Kirkman
Ebony Bolling
Ray and Robin Gagnon
Tommy Banks
Anthony Picarello
William Larson
Brenda Reaves

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Lance Cpl. Clayton Campbell
Major James Carmichael
Airborne Ranger Keegan Crosby
Staff Sgt. Tyson Crosby
SPC Bill Homes

Staff Sgt. Skipper Smith
Sgt. Matthew Spencer (Ret.)
MSgt. Stephan Spencer
Zach Huff
Jake Randall

Erica Webb, US Private E-3
SrA Paul Kampwerth
John Meyer
Zachary Neubauer

Amador Ochoa
Capt. Blake Crosby
Josh Pace
Scott Prengel

CELEBRATIONS THIS MONTH

Ron Blotevogel
David Kassing
Lynn Kempf
Sean Rimar
Mari Short
Greg Fremder
Lisa Micnheimer

Georgeann Smithies
Brad Bush
Kendyll Pugh
Kennedi Pugh
Emily Truckenbrod
Sawyer Blotevogel
Tim Schoenecker

Fred Tatjenhorst
Terry Menz
Kathy Nehrt
Megan Kolosieke
Carole Callahan
Marian Steinmann
Chris Comrie

Carli Orr
Brooke Wieser
Darrell Bruhn
Barbara Sparks
Joyce Tatjenhorst
Erin Morris
Cynthia Haggitt

Samuel Huster
Vicki Schorr
Beckham Clark
Bradley Bush
Kathy Hoelscher
Anita Steinmann

Chuck & Cindy Pugh

Eric Sutton & Peggy Pick-Sutton

REMINDERS

PRAYER LIST

Please let the office know if you would like to add a new person, remove a current person, or change the status of anyone on our prayer list. OLLC practice includes removing individuals from the prayer lists **after 3-4 weeks** unless an update is received.

PRAYER VENTURES

Two pages of monthly prayer support for ELCA ministries are available at: www.elca.org/Resources/Prayer-Ventures

WHEN YOU HAVE CHANGES

Please let the church office know of changes to e-mail address, mail/resident addresses, telephone numbers, job, college, graduations etc.

OTHER INFORMATION

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America -- <https://www.elca.org/>
Central Southern Illinois Synod -- <https://www.csis-elca.org/>

OLLC STAFF

Pastor Stephanie Doeschot
Interim Pastor

Chelsie Stevens
Administrative Assistant

Addie Mays
Director of Worship Music
for
Sundays & Special Services

Olivia Cross
Leader of Non-Traditional
Worship Music

Dr. Rhonda Comrie
Organist

Benjamin Maynard
Worship Tech
Livestreaming Specialist
ProPresenter Slide
Designer

CHURCH COUNCIL

Gail Jorgenson
President

Dr. Emily Truckenbrod
Vice President

Dr. Terry Ackerman
Secretary

Dr. Laura Schoenecker
Treasurer

KaLonny Short
Member At-Large

Pastor Stephanie Doeschot
Interim Pastor

MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM

Kathy Nehrt: Education
Vacant: Fellowship

Mo Johnson: IT
Vacant: Service

Jan Vinson: Worship

Sunday School:
Lisa White

Fair Trade Store:
Mike Williams
vablu2@aol.com

Newsletter Editor:
K. Cummings-Larson
Facebook:
Maureen "Mo" Johnson

The topics discussed during the January council meeting included the upcoming Annual Meeting, plans for 2026, the outlook for OLLC, and the 2026 budget. It was not a terribly exciting meeting, but it was a productive meeting.

As my term as OLLC Council President comes to an end, I reflect on my service to the church and express my gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of the past four years.

- I am thankful for the supportive OLLC council members who not always embrace my ideas but offered alternative perspectives that I had not considered. Together, we made sound decisions and supported the congregation to fulfill our mission.
- I am appreciative of the leadership and love demonstrated by the pastors I had the privilege to work alongside. They taught me to value the nuances and dedication required to be a pastor, emphasizing that their work is truly a *calling*.
- I take pride in all the ministries within Our Lord's and am deeply moved by the dedication and countless hours that each member contributes to our shared church mission.
- I am touched by the overwhelming support and gratitude shown by congregation members during challenging times. Your support made my role as president much smoother to navigate than I had anticipated.
- I feel privileged and cherished to be a part of the Our Lord's family. Over the past four years, I have grown to appreciate the unique contributions that unite us as one community.

Despite not knowing what lies ahead for Our Lord's, I do know that the nominating committee has identified a strong group of individuals to carry on the work and ministries of Our Lords. I am proud of our progress and eagerly anticipate a future filled with new ideas and a positive outlook.

Yours in Christ,
Karen Cummings-Larson

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Summary taken from report provided by OLLC Treasurer Laura Schoenecker
If you have any questions, please contact Laura at lsawanso@siue.edu.

General Benevolence Income

December 2025..... \$42,244

General Benevolence Expenses

December 2025 \$28,331

Cash - Unrestricted \$54,997*

Cash - Designated \$90,663

Total Cash **\$145,660**

*includes \$5,980 listed as 2026 income. This represents RMDs received from members in 2025 who wished the funds to be used for 2026. This amount will be transferred to General Benevolence in January.

Solar project loan balance \$90,000, to be paid upon receipt of tax credits.

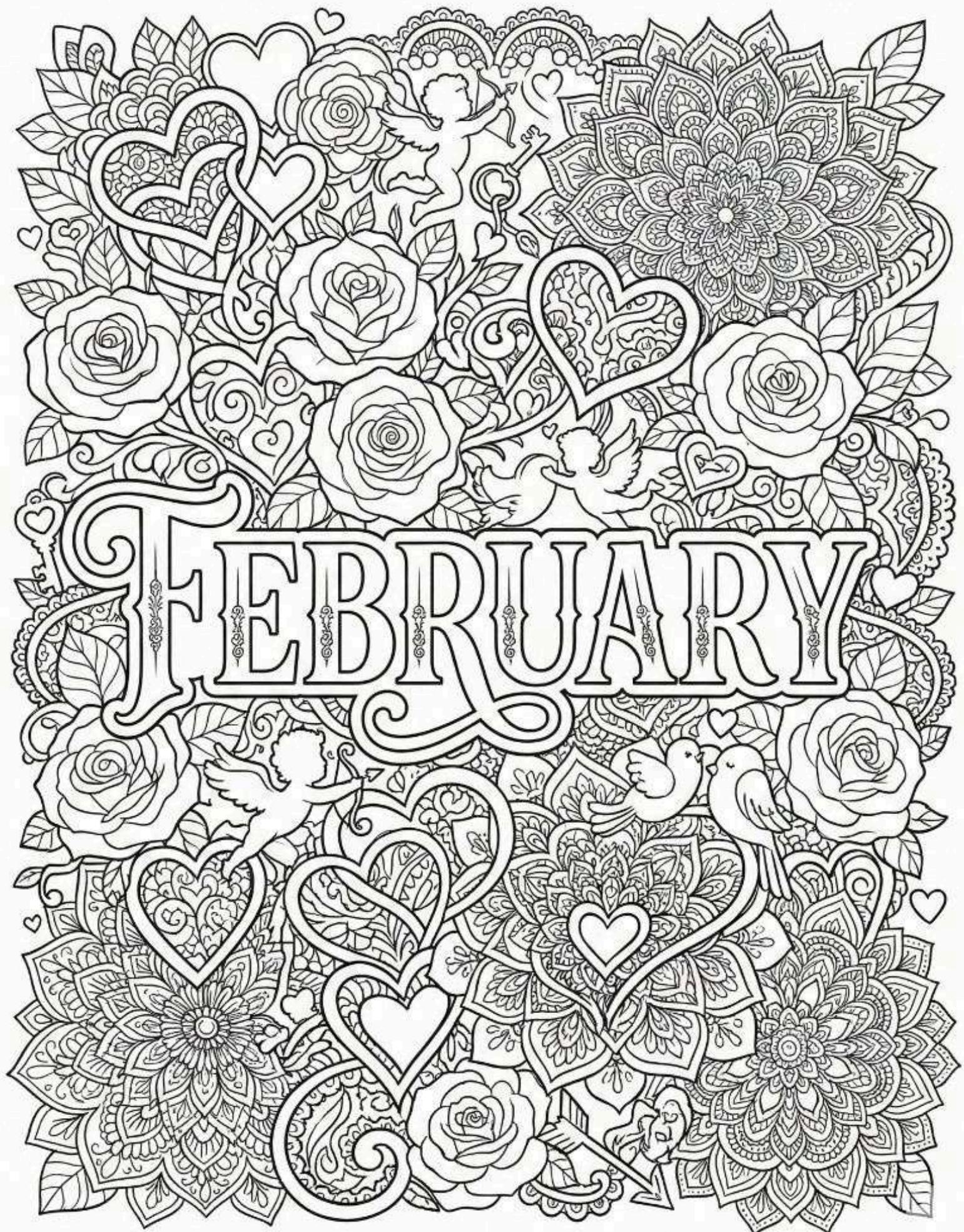
During December:

- The balance of the Monthly Emphasis Fund at the end of December 2025 was \$49.17 - School Supplies.
- The December Monthly Emphasis was OLLC People in a Pickle. A total of \$2,234.68 was given to the PIAP fund
- Local Benevolence for the Fourth Quarter totals about \$802.21. In December \$400 was allocated to the International Institute in St. Louis. The remainder (\$402.21) will be allocated in January.

*Thank you for sharing your financial resources with this congregation
in support of the mission we share.*

To give, simply scan this QR code with your smart phone. The QR code takes you directly to the OLLC giving page. On the giving page you have the opportunity to identify if your contribution is for Benevolence (church expenditures) or for one of the designated funds. Of course, cash or checks are always welcomed. No matter which method you choose when giving to OLLC, all donations received will help us sustain our ministries throughout the year.





FEBRUARY 2026 CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Hospitality 10:15 AM Pre-K - Adult Education 10:30 AM Confirmation RESCHEDULED OLLC Annual <i>meeting</i> BRUNCH @ 11:00 MEETING @ NOON	2 10:00 AM Questions Bible Study	3 7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room 7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement	4 3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - WC Fellowship Hall	5 5:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	6 6:00 PM OLLC Concert Rehearsal - Sanctuary	7 3:30 PM Praise Band Practice 5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service 6:15 PM Hospitality
8 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Hospitality 10:15 AM Pre-K - Adult Education 10:30 AM Confirmation (Tentative) 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Congregational Game Day - FH	9 10:00 AM Questions Bible Study - LC Conference Room 6:00 PM Girl Scouts - LC 6:30: PM Ministry Support Team - ZOOM	10 OLLC Serves SOS 7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room 7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement	11 3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - WC Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Lakeview Garden Club Meeting - Sanctuary	12 10:00 AM Morning Glories 5:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	13 6:00 PM OLLC Concert Rehearsal - Sanctuary	14 7:00 AM Worker Bees breakfast 8:00 AM UN-decorating the Church 3:30 PM Praise Band Practice 5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service <i>Spaghetti Dinner & CONCERT</i>
15 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Hospitality 10:15 AM - Adult Education	16 March Newsletter Deadline 10:00 AM Questions Bible Study 6:30 PM - Church Council - LC Conference Room	17 7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room 7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement	18 3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - WC Fellowship Hall	19 5:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	20	21 10:00 AM La Leche League - WC 3:30 PM Praise Band Practice 5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service 6:15 PM Hospitality
22 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Hospitality 10:15 AM Pre-K - Adult Education 10:30 AM Confirmation (Tentative)	23 10:00 AM Questions Bible Study 6:00 PM Girl Scouts - LC	24 7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room 7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement	25 11:30 AM LC Conf. Room, Newsletter Assembly 12:00 PM OLLC Crafters - WC Fellowship Hall 3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - WC Fellowship Hall	26 10:00 AM Morning Glories 5:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	27	28 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM OLLC Fellowship Hall Closed for Private Event 3:30 PM Praise Band Practice 5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service 6:15 PM Hospitality

February Giving Emphasis



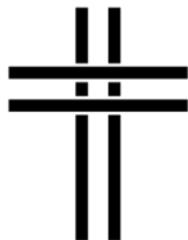


Dinner @ 6:00 pm, Concert @ 7:00 pm
February 14

February Dinner & Concert

"The Spirit of Our Lord's News"
Our Lord's Lutheran Church
150 Wilma Drive
Maryville, IL 62062
(618) 345-5692 (Office Bldg.)
www.OURLORDS.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED