

2026

Sharing the Joy

Mission Statement:

Our Savior's Lutheran Church celebrates with joy a life in Christ to be shared with others.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Pastor Sean Koos

9:30 a.m. Worship Service / Sunday School

ELCA, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

(715) 394 3472 *oslcsuperioroffice@gmail,com*



Pastor's Report
November 2026

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

The leaves are changing and the air is getting crisp. The vegetables in my garden need harvesting before the frost kills them off. I'm just so proud that I could get such a lush garden in the last 6 weeks! I want to keep it looking just the way it is for the next 6 months. Alas, the great Northern chill will be upon us soon enough and outdoor life will either go into hibernation or die off. It's just a part of living where we live. Winters are long and harsh up here and we can accept and adapt or consider moving elsewhere.

Fall and winter are seasons of death and with death comes an unfortunate response: grief. Over the last several weeks, I've taken it upon myself to dig deeper into understanding the nature of grief. It has been a difficult year for me personally as my family and I have been going through a divorce. Nothing scandalous happened in the marriage, just a deep and abiding stagnation. Neither my wife nor I were growing in the marriage anymore and sadly it needed to die.

What I didn't expect was to experience the grief that comes with death. A big part of my identity as a husband died this year and I didn't realize it. I liked being a husband even if I wasn't very good at it, at least to that one woman. I've asked for her forgiveness and prayed that she can find someone who will be a better husband to her. I need to process that experience and all the sadness and sorrow it has caused.

I am hopeful for what my family will evolve into and grateful that no one actually died, just the marriage. I'm excited to learn how others have processed their grief in their times of loss too. If you are someone grieving, please know that I am there with you and hopeful for what lies ahead.

Blessings,
Pastor Sean

Bible Studies November 2026
Wednesdays @ 10:30-11:30 am

11-04-26 2 Kings 5:1-15a

1. Why do you think God often uses humble or unexpected channels to reveal His power?
2. Why do we sometimes reject God's guidance or solutions when they don't look grand or dramatic? (ie sending messenger)
3. How do our own expectations of how God should act prevent us from receiving what He wants to give us? (ie Elisha didn't perform public ritual)
4. Why is it sometimes harder for us to obey a simple, humbling command than to perform a grand, difficult task? (ie Damascus vs Jordan)
5. What does slave girl's action teach us about faith and forgiveness in difficult circumstances?
6. Who are the people in your life who are allowed to speak hard truths to you when your pride gets in the way?
7. How did a physical healing lead to a radical spiritual transformation?
8. What are the modern "buts" (hidden struggles, brokenness, or vulnerabilities) that people try to mask with success and status today? (ie but he had leprosy)
9. How do you typically respond when faced with a problem that is completely out of your control?
10. How does Naaman's transformation from a high-ranking military official to a humble believer inspire you?

11-11-26 Micah 1:3-5; 5:2-5; 6:6-8

1. What emotions or realizations is this imagery meant to evoke in the listeners? (melting wax)
2. If God's presence alone alters the physical landscape, how should that impact our view of His authority over human institutions, governments, and personal lives?
3. Why does God hold his covenant people to a higher standard of accountability than the surrounding nations?
4. In what ways do our modern leadership hubs (political, cultural, or religious) sometimes become the centers of systemic compromise or sin?
5. How does choosing an insignificant town fit into the larger pattern of how God works throughout scripture? (1 Cor 1:27-29)
6. How do we handle seasons where God feels silent or absent?
7. What is the difference between Jesus giving us peace versus him actually being our peace?
8. What does it look like to "act justly" or "do justice" in our daily lives or communities?
9. What is the difference between simply showing mercy when it's convenient and truly loving mercy?
10. How do these three requirements connect to one another? For example, can you truly act justly if you aren't walking humbly with God?



11-18-26 Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; 2:1-4

1. How do we handle seasons in life when it feels like our defenses are falling one by one?
2. What are the modern "comfortable compromises" the world offers us in exchange for giving up our spiritual convictions?
3. How does Sennacherib's strategy of psychological warfare reflect tactics used in today's world?
4. Discuss the role of faith and trust in God during times of adversity, as depicted in Isaiah 36.
5. In our current society, what could be some "Assyrian threats" that challenge our faith?
6. How does ch. 36 demonstrate the power of fear and intimidation?
7. (ch 37) What do Hezekiah's actions tell us about where he placed his ultimate confidence versus where we often turn when we hit a breaking point?
8. How does vs 3 describe absolute human helplessness?
9. (ch 2) Why is the imagery of a crowd streaming up a mountain so powerful?
10. How do weapons differ from agricultural tools in terms of purpose, focus, and impact?

11-25-26 Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:17-19

1. Habakkuk openly asks God "How long?" and "Why?" (v. 2-3). Is it a sign of weak faith or strong faith to question God this way? Why?
2. The prophet describes a society where justice is paralyzed and the wicked surround the righteous (v. 4). In what ways do we see these same patterns in our world today?
3. How do we maintain our faith and keep praying when it feels like God is silent during a crisis?
4. How do we react when God's solution to a problem looks worse than the problem itself?
5. What does "waiting on God" look like practically in our lives today when we are confused or hurting?
6. Why is it important to clearly remember and share how God has answered our prayers or guided us in the past?
7. How do we handle seasons where God's promises seem delayed?
8. If our modern equivalent of the fig tree, vine, and flock failed (e.g., job loss, financial crisis, relational breakdown), how would we navigate choosing joy?
9. What is the difference between toxic positivity and true, biblical joy?
10. What does it mean for God to be our source of strength when we have no strength left in ourself?





REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those serving in the military, those returning home with mental and physical scars, and for all military veterans. For the health of all unborn children and grandchildren, all those recovering or in nursing-home care, and for those struggling with addiction.

Familes of: Barb Gudowski (Audrey Larson's sister)

Worship Support Congregation Members: Roger Prescott, Dick Tabor, Doris Maki, Carol Jenssen, Sheryl Aamodt, Julianne Koski, Ralph Rolson, Jim & Marcy Rigstad, Steve Shaw, Amanda Shaw

Family Member: Heidi Hoff Samarzia, Lynsey Anttila, Gary Koos, Kacy Bachand, Dorothy Huffman, Mickie Cooke

Friend/neighbor: Reggie Bryant, Jesse Russell, Mary Zastrow, Sue Weber, Mary & Terry Hendrickson, Debbie Kressin

(Keeping Names on for 3 months. Let the office know if you want them put back on.)

Call the church office 715-394-3472 to add, or remove, individuals to the prayer list.



SCRIPS CARDS



NEXT Scrips order will go in NOVEMBER 15.
As of 11/1/26 we have made $1,860 in profit for the church.

Remember—Scrips cards can be used for everyday items you normally purchase. Gas, Groceries, Pizza, Drugs at Walgreens, Walmart or CVS, Movies, and gifts to college kids, grand children. The list goes on and on, and it benefits our church. Ask a member about them if you would like to learn more.

Service Attendants for NOVEMBER

Steward: Sandy Steinberg
Deacon: Len Wicklund
Altar Guild: Linda Gran

EXECUTIVE BOARD of OSLC

PRESIDENT: Donna Liebaert / Dawn Wicklund (when Donna out of town)
(dliebs56@yahoo.com) (dawnwicklund@gmail.com)
VICE PRESIDENT: Gary Liupakka (no email) 715-398-7090, leave message
COUNCIL SECRETARY: Cheryl Braman (Cheryl.jones65@yahoo.com
TREASURER: Bonnie Wentzel (bwentzel72@gmail.com)

PASTOR: Sean Koos 715-394-3472 or 218-206-0859
OFFICE: Linda Gran 715-394-3472 (home 218-391-1807)

Messages from the Stewardship Board

11/1/26

Mortgage Reduction Fund Raiser:

Thank you again to all those that made donations to help reduce our mortgage and mortgage monthly payments. Also, thank you to those that continue to help make the mortgage payment each month. We can't do it alone, but working together we are getting it done! **Thanks!**

Pledge Drive:

Thank you to those that have made their pledge. If you haven't made your pledge for next year, please do soon. Our end date for the drive is the week of November 8th. However, we will continue to take them until the end of the year. We like them ahead so that our Trustee Board has time to plan a budget for 2027. On a Sunday at the end of November we will be blessing the pledges.

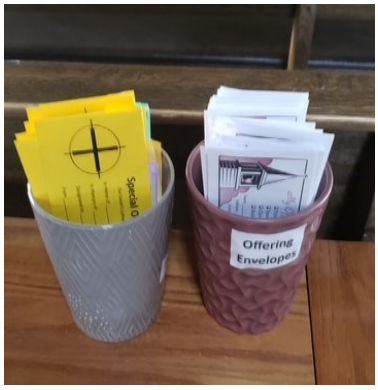
Special Offering Envelope (Yellow):

We have brought the **Special Offering Envelopes** back. Sometimes we have someone special we want to honor or remember. Example, our alive or past Mother's birthday. Or we have something special within the church we want to contribute to. This is a way to do that. You can find the yellow envelope at the back of the church on the table with the offering envelopes. These will be included in the newsletter each month.

Also, if you have any container like the ones that are on that table, we could use two more. I believe they had flowers in them. No hole in the bottom of the pot.

Your Stewardship Board





EDUCATION CORNER

SUNDAY SCHOOL







FIRST COMMUNION



Linda Clark and Jeff Skrenes led the class where all the students and their parent made their own communion bread., which was used during the First Communion Service.





All the First Communion students up front with their families for their very first communion. What a glorious day!!



EDUCATION CORNER (cont.)



Confirmation Class



A Special Treat



"Childrens Sermon Time"



Narrative Lectionary for NOVEMBER

Sun Nov 1: 1 Kings 3:4-9, 16-28 "Solomon's Wisdom

Sun Nov 8: 2 Kings 5:1-15a "Elisha Heals Naaman"

Sun Nov 15: Micah [1:3-5]; 5:2-5a; 6:6-8 "Micah"

Sun Nov 22: Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; 2:1-4 "Swords into Plowshares"

Sun Nov 29: Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4 3:[3b-6], 17-19 "Faith as a Way of Life"

NOVEMBER Collection
Mission and Outreach

Salvation Army

Nov 1: Turkey Gravy Mix, Stuffing, Canned Pumpkin and Pie Crust mix, Canned Vegetables

Nov 8: Cream of Mushroom or Cream of Chicken soup, French Fired Onions, Boxed Stuffing Mix

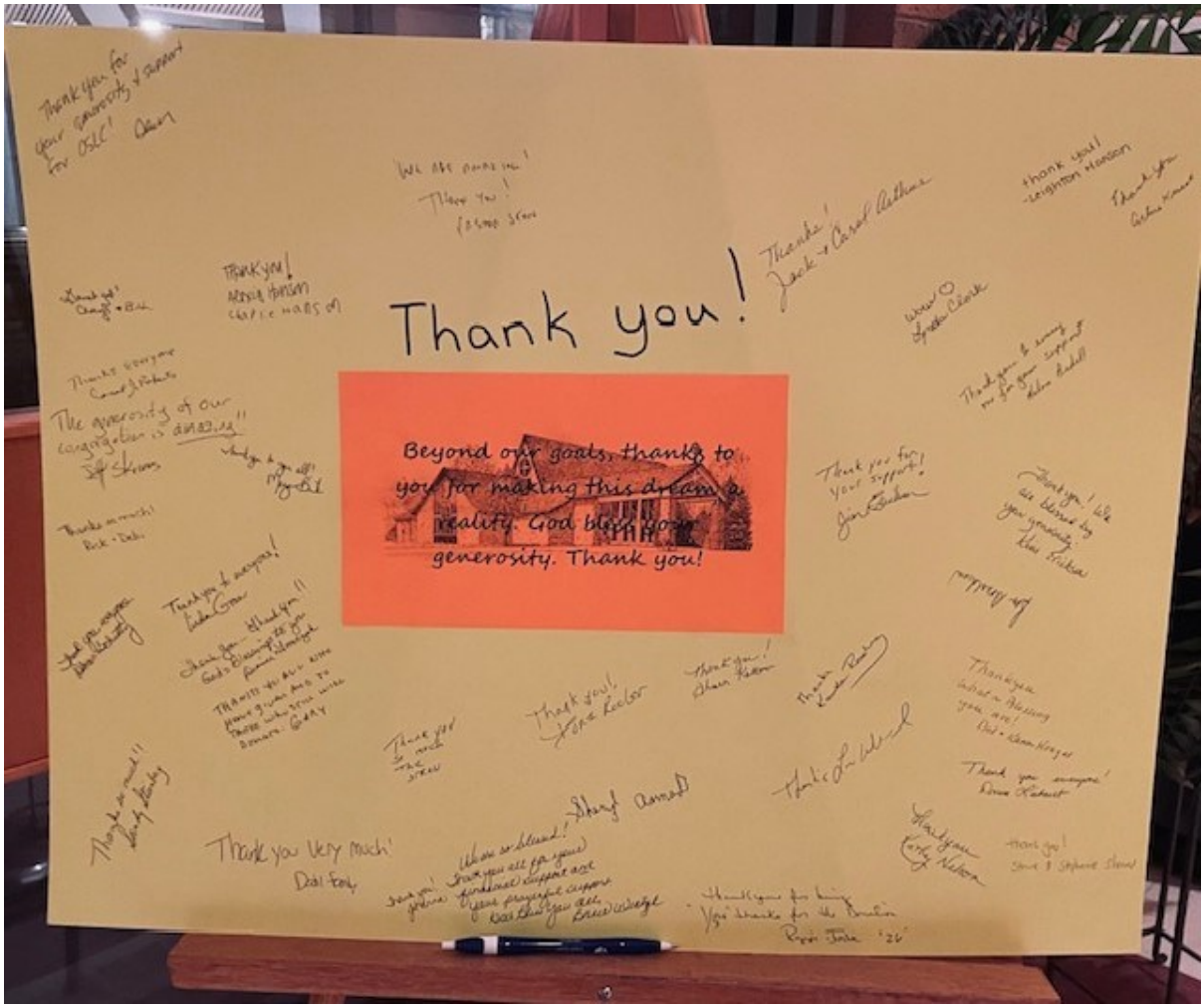
Nov 15: Instant Mashed Potatoes, Canned Sweet Potatoes, Scalloped Potatoes

Nov 22: Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Cranberry Sauce, Gravy Mix

Nov 29: Paper Towels, Facial Tissue, Toilet Paper, Napkins

DEBT RETIREMENT

In October $8,105 has come in for Debt Retirement.
HALLELUIA!! and THANK YOU!!





SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Ryah Samarzia	02-Nov
Alexis Hanson	03-Nov
Elio Lares-Green	07-Nov
Dennis Johnson	09-Nov
Donna Liebaert	09-Nov
Carol Roberts	09-Nov
Sara Sturzenegger	10-Nov
Payge Rivord	11-Nov
Kevin Olson	12-Nov
Sheryl Aamodt	17-Nov
Sam Koos	17-Nov
Marissa Murashie	26-Nov
Katelin Olson	26-Nov
Cheryl Splinter	27-Nov
Don Larson	29-Nov
Sabrina Maki	30-Nov



NONE THIS MONTH



VENDOR FAIR
DEC 5TH
9AM-2PM



The baskets are downstairs waiting to be filled with goodies.

SOME IDEAS FOR BASKETS:

- **New Mom or Parent basket**
- **Sports Fans**
- **Grill Master**
- **College Kids**
- **Movie Night**
- **Crafter or Hobbyist**
- **Lover of ’Chocolate’ or ’Coffee’ or ’Fishing’**
- **All Things Pasta**
- **Games & Puzzles**
- **Children's Books & Activities**
- **Spa Day**
- **Soups, Stews, Chilies**

Threads of Hope Children's Clothes Closet

<u>108 items were given out in OCTOBER</u>

23 items Infants - 5yrs Rm

85 items 6yrs - Teen Rm

Contact Dianne (715-817-8180) or Carol (218-940-0073) if you are willing to help them. Even if you can only give a few hours, they would love the help.



YOU CAN GIVE TO OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

by scanning either of the QR Codes below.

General Fund

QR Code for
GENERAL OPERATING

Building Fund

QR Code for
BUILDING FUND

OSLC Council Meeting
September 15, 2026

Present: Bonnie Wentzel, Linda Clark, Cheryl Braman, Gary Liupakka, Jim Erickson, Alexis Hanson, Kandee Rosberg, Sandy Steinberg, Dawn Wicklund, Carol Arthur, Pastor Sean Koos

The Board meeting was called to order by Dawn Wicklund at 5:15pm and opened with our Mission Statement, devotion and prayer.

Additions to the agenda – Thank You under New Business

Secretary's Report: 8-18-26 correction/Stewardship – Pledge drive theme is "Your talent is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift back to God." Approve as corrected. **M/S/P).**

Treasurer's Report: Income was $12,317.68. Expenditures were $16,768.63; for a **loss** of **$4,450.95.** Motion to approve the report **(M/S/P)**
(*Note – $4205.12 for work outside by DBS that will be paid when done.)

Board Reports:

Board of Education
*Sunday School & Confirmation schedule
*Continue discussion about mentors
*Jamie Koos helping with Sunday School

Deacons
*Recap summer events
*All Creation Sings songbooks have been purchased.

Mission and Outreach
*223 items given from Children's Clothes Closet in August
*September collection for Northwestern Community Action
*October collection for Salvation Army
*Change over to fall/winter clothes
*Asked Linda to mail a $200 check to Second Harvest food shelf (they can double it)

Stewardship
*Pledge letters have been prepared
*Thank you letters to be sent to those who contributed to the mortgage debt retirement fund

Trustees
<u>Old Business:</u>
*Money for the mortgage reduction should be in by September 25 (see language under New Business)
*DBS fixing water leak

New Business:
*Repair needed on one of the exit doors
*Rick will get quotes from snow plowing providers

M/S/P to accept the verbal and written board reports.

Pastors Report:
Fall retreat in Eau Claire October 11-13
CHIMS survey – important that members return asap

Vision Victories:
Mortgage reduction contributions
Confirmation classes
1st Communion classes
Choir return
Kyia baptism
Continue to receive requests from vendors to be added, but we are full!

Ongoing Business: None

New Business:
Thank you cards to those who contributed to mortgage reduction; there should also be thank you from Pastor, Board, etc
M/S/P "The Trustees recognize that some debt retirement pledges will not be received in time to reduce our mortgage principal by October 1. Thus, the Trustees recommend that debt retirement pledges be paid out (loaned) from the General Fund in order to reduce the October 1 outstanding debt balance. Pledges received after October 1 to pay off this internal loan."

Upcoming Events:
Pie & Ice Cream on Sunday, September 27 to celebrate mortgage debt reduction
Sunday, November 22 – Joint Thanksgiving service – location TBD
Saturday, December 5 – vendor sale

Upcoming Meeting Dates:
CHIMS meeting – Thursday, September 24
All Boards – October 13
Council – October 20

The meeting adjourned at 6:10pm **(M/S/P)**, ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Braman

OSLC Council Meeting
October 20, 2026

Present: Donna Liebaert, Bonnie Wentzel, Linda Clark, Cheryl Braman, Gary Liupakka, Jim Erickson, Kandee Rosberg, Sandy Steinberg, Dawn Wicklund, Cheri Splinter, Bill Braman, Pastor Sean Koos

The Council meeting was called to order by President Liebaert @ 5:18pm and opened with our Mission Statement, devotion and prayer.

Additions to the agenda – Several, (Change service start time, Summer Nitsch contract, Bldg Fund check signers, Letter of Concern, etc)

Secretary's Report: 9-15-26 approve as written **(M/S/P).**

Treasurer's Report: Income was $15,859.21 Expenditures were $20,978.02; for a **loss** of **$5,118.81** Motion to approve the report **(M/S/P)**

Board Reports:

Board of Education

*1st Communion Sunday October 25 – 8 participitants (discussion of process)
*6 in Confirmation this year
*Preliminary discussion of Sunday School Christmas program

Deacons

*Recap September events
*Need to have more apple juice for first Sunday of the month Communion

Mission and Outreach

*238 items from Childrens Clothes Closet in September
*Linda to mail a $100 check to Second Harvest food shelf and $100 to ELCA Good Gifts for 100 chickens

Stewardship

*Discussed special envelopes to include "in memory of" & "in honor of"
*Question of new church directory (when & format)
*Discussed envelope to direct funeral & memorials to certain categories (ie. mortgage, quilting, garden-landscape, snow removal, website, altar, clothes closet, choir, youth, general building maintenance, mission, investments, basement finishing, etc)
*Tree of Life – $100 donation for each leaf in honor of friend/family – money to general Fund.

Trustees

Old Business:

*Debt retirement campaign was very successful! October 1st balance after Memorial Trust Fund transfer ($75,000) & campaign donations was **$257,698** with a monthly payment of **$3,336.** We estimate that an additional $25,000 will be received that would further reduce our principal balance to **$232,698** with a monthly payment of approximately **$3,012.** Please note we started 2026 with a mortgage balance of $457,196

*Fellowship Hall work outside by south windows by DBS still in progress
*Superior Property Services (SPS) will provide snow plowing this winter – they were the most flexible

New Business:
*Jeff & Donna Liebaert replaced the toilets off of Fellowship Hall. Thank You!!!
*We have a year-to-date **loss** of **$15,962**
***Discussed a request for an outside pantry for food shelf items
*Pressure relief valve issue

M/S/P to accept the verbal and written board reports.

Pastors Report:

Merger of the four churches is off the table – discussion will shift to "how do we grow?" & "how do we work together?"

Meeting with Bishop – we are not the only ones trying to figure things out

Discussed having a "Landing Page" – concept of Superior United Lutheran Churches with each church consider a "campus"

Christmas Eve service at OSLC will be at 4:30pm

Vision Victories:

Mortgage Reduction

Toilets downstairs

Ongoing Business:

Need better communication for funeral responsibilities (close building & other duties)

New Business:

Letter concerned re: sharing the peace during flu/covid season – discussion of when & how to address during or after service

Directory update – ideas discussed – table for further discussion

Building Fund check signers – motion to authorize Linda Gran, John Arthur & Bonnie Wentzel as check signers and notify the bank by providing them a copy of these minutes **M/S/P**

Summer Nitsch contract – motion to authorize Donna to sign for OSLC **M/S/P**

Look at compensation/benefits for Pastor for next year

Discussion of changing start time of service to 9:15am – poll the congregation (good time to change after Daylight Savings Time ends)

Food Pantry idea – would have to have a limited amount at any one time or it gets emptied. Decided to support those organizations that already provide this service.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, November 22 – Joint Thanksgiving service – 6:00pm @ St Albans
Saturday, December 5 – vendor sale
Christmas Eve service – Thursday, December 24 @ 4:30pm OSLC

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

CHIMS meeting – Thursday, October 22 @ OSLC
All Boards – November 10
Council – November 17

The meeting adjourned at 6:49pm **(M/S/P)**, ended with the Lord's Prayer.
Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Braman

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America 2026

NOVEMBER

1924 Wyoming Ave, Superior, WI
715-394-3472 oslcsuperioroffice@gmail.com

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 8:45am Choir 9:30am Service & Sunday School 6pm Confirm. Class	**2** 9am Quilting	**3**	**4** 10:30am Bible Sty 1:30pm HarmonyHs 4:30pm Choir	5 8-3pm Pastor at Boundaries Training-Washburn 5:15pm Benefit Mtg w/ Pastor & Concordia	**6**	**7**
8 8:45am Choir 9:30am Service & Sunday School 6pm Confirm. Class	**9** 9am Quilting	**10** 4pm Trustees 5:15pm All Boards Meet	**11** 10:30am Bible Sty 4:30pm Choir	**12** 5:30pm CHIMS meeting at Pilgrim	**13**	**14**
15 8:45am Choir 9:30am Service & Sunday School 6pm Confirm. Class	***16*** 9am Quilting	**17** 5:15pm Council Mtg	**18** 10:30am Bible Sty 4:30pm Choir	**19** 9:30am Lk Superior Conf Mtg Trinity Church Lake Nebagamon	**20**	**21**
22 Christ the King Sunday 8:45am Choir 9:30am Service & Sunday School Setting up tables for Vendor Fair 4:30pm MENTOR mtg w Confirmans 6pm Confirm class is attending the Ecumenical Service at St. Albans Episcopal Church - 1510 New York Avenue	**23** 9am Quilting	**24**	**25** 10:30am Bible Sty 1:30pm HarmonyHs 4:30pm Choir	**26** THANKSGIVING	**27**	**28**
29 8:45am Choir 9:30am Service & NO Sunday School NO Confirm. Class	**30** 9am Quilting	**01-Dec**	**02-Dec** 10:30am Bible Sty 1:30pm HarmonyHs 4:30pm Choir	**03-Dec**	**04-Dec** Vendors setting up	**05-Dec** **VENDOR FAIR**