



Worship Schedule

9:00 am-Sunday School, Coffee hour

10:00 am-Worship

Staff

Jim DuMond, Pastor

Martha Hawk, Music Dir.

Abai Curtiss, Office Admin.

Carolynn Bailey, Organ/
Keyboard

Council and Officers

Allan Forsman, President

Frankie Lane-Odiorne,
Vice President

Alex Bolger, Secretary

Paul Gregory, Treasurer/
Finance

Karen Wilson, Fin. Sec.

Tom Marshall-Support

Property

Stewardship

Zach Olsen-Worship

Worship/Music

Media/Technology

Diane Bolger-Service

Outreach

Ricki Doty-Learning

Christian Education, Youth

Tandy Hobbs-Witness, Inreach

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

212 Sunset Drive

Johnson City, TN 37604

423-282-2313

Email: office@oslc.church

Web: www.oslc.church

*News articles are due by Decem-
ber 22nd to appear in January
NewSense.*

Newsletter

NewSense

December 2025

A note from Pastor Jim

Dear Our Saviour family,

Preparations are underway for the Advent and Christmas seasons, and many will be looking for a church home to give thanks and prepare for Christ's birth. The Advent and Christmas seasons offer us the opportunity to extend an invitation of welcome to family, friends and neighbors, encouraging them to worship with us.

The church council has approved the design and purchase of door knockers to promote our Christmas Eve service on Wednesday, December 24th at 6:30pm. The door knockers will also have information about the congregation's Sunday morning service and Sunday school. We hope to begin distributing the door knockers to the congregation by Sunday Nov. 30th, so that our members can give them to family, friends and neighbors.

As you all know, Pastor Chris Heinold will begin serving as your pastor during the first week of January, so the Christmas Eve service will be the last service I will be leading as your interim pastor. Alice and I have enjoyed worshipping and serving together with you over these last fourteen months. Our Saviour is a great congregation full of people who love and serve the Lord and their neighbors. Our Saviour will be in my thoughts and prayers as Pastor Chris begins his ministry among you.

May the peace of Christ be with you and your loved ones during the Advent and Christmas seasons, and in the New Year.

Pastor Jim

Our purpose is to make disciples and grow in grace.

The Melting Pot



Our Melting Pot crew will meet on December 9th and 10th (mornings) to prepare meals and help with delivery. If you would like to volunteer to help feed the homeless and needy people of our community, contact Sharon Harshman at sharonharshman1@gmail.com or call 423-282-0400.

Melting Pot Clothing Collection for the Winter:

Melting Pot is collecting winter clothing, including outerwear, socks, underwear, long sleeved shirts, long pants, etc., to donate to the homeless and less fortunate. Please put the donations in the large box in the hallway for us to deliver with our monthly meals.

WELCA

There is a change for the WELCA meeting in December. It will be Tuesday, December 9th at 1:00. Place to be determined. All women in the church are invited to share a Christmas goodie she makes and enjoy fellowship before the holiday rush! Hope to see many there!



Caring Cabinet

Winter is just around the corner. Please remember our homeless with donations of:
socks, gloves, toboggans, canned soups,

ravioli, spaghetti's, etc (with zip top lids) and individually wrapped crackers.

Always needed are: **toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo, razors and shave cream, deodorant, feminine hygiene products and body lotion.**

Donated items may be placed in the bin labeled 'Caring Cabinet' located in the hallway past Pastor Jim's office door.

COME JOIN US!



Primetimers will be meeting on TUESDAY, December 2nd in the Fellowship Hall for our Christmas party. Ham, chicken, iced tea, coffee, water, and plates/glasses/silverware will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. We will also have our normal "White Elephant" gift

exchange (limit \$15) if you would like to participate. Tom Marshall is our host. For more information contact Sharon at 423-282-0400 or sharonharshman1@gmail.com.

Veterans' and Active Military



Every month there is a devotional breakfast at Golden Corral at 8:30 am. Bring a friend or two for good fellowship and food on December 6. Price is currently \$10.89 a person with a senior discount offered.

Lutheran Guys and Gals Lunch

December's LGG (Lutheran Guys and Gals) lunch is cancelled for the December holidays. January's LGG lunch will be on Thursday the 22nd at Kickback Jack's. For more information contact Sharon at 423-282-0400 or sharonharshman1@gmail.com.

Cover Girls

Meet on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays (Dec 9th & 26th). No quilting experience is necessary. Contact Lu Mattson at 423.767.8180 if you are interested in helping or just drop by.



Looking for a warm, cozy Gift. For a donation of only \$50 you can get a quilt to give to a loved one. See Lu Mattson if you would like a quilt.

Food Pantry

Any items donated for the food pantry are always welcome, but for the month of December we ask that you consider our Annual Reverse Advent Project.

In the past, OSLC has had many participate in our annual Reverse Advent Project. This is a way for families to share the true meaning of Christmas while stocking the OSLC food pantry. It works this way: during advent (beginning Sunday, November 30th), you can pick up a box that contains a list of needed canned goods and non-perishable items. You also receive a set of stickers to be placed on the 'food' list once that item has been placed in the box. Over the next four weeks, families can work together letting children know they are helping someone that might otherwise be hungry. If you feel the purchases might be cost prohibitive, use the buddy system and pair up with another family. The boxes full of food will be returned and blessed on December 28.

A few hints:

- Shop with a family of four in mind. Please do not provide large or extra large sizes. Sometimes the person needing food rides the bus to pick up food and they must be able to manage/lift and carry it home.
- NO glass containers. Please purchase only plastic, paper or tin. Again, sometimes getting the food home can be troublesome and things can get broken.
- If possible, try to get tin cans with zip-lock lids. Often times the elderly do not have enough strength in their hands to use a can opener, or, when living in alternative housing, may not have a can opener.
- Store brands are cheaper.
- Don't let the cost or the chore of shopping keep you from participating. Use the buddy system or just supply the amount you are comfortable with.
- Shelf-stable milk and jelly are cheaper at the Dollar Tree.
- Please do not seal up the box. We will be adding shelf stable milk and some goodies for the children.

Have questions? Ask Susan or Mike Kirkland



Midweek Advent Services: This year we will again be holding midweek Advent Services on December 3rd, 10th, and 17th at 6:30 PM. These services will be small and intimate utilizing The Holden Evening Prayer for our order of worship, which is a beautiful service with easy to learn music. Prior to each service, there will be a Soup Dinner held in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:45 PM. Sign ups for providing food are up, so please start brainstorming for some of your favorite recipes. We are looking for both with-meat and vegetarian options to help make sure there is food for everyone. For the meals, please direct all questions or special dietary restrictions to Zach Olsen or Tandy Hobbs. We hope to see you there!



Christian Ed/Children's Sunday School Happenings

- Children's Christmas Program December 14th during regular Sunday Service. Please have the children wear their (warm and comfy) pajamas to church on that Sunday.
- A festive graphic featuring a banner of alternating red and green pennants at the top. Below it is a red balloon with a string. The text "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" is in large, red, outlined letters, and "Jesus!" is in large, green, outlined letters. At the bottom, it says "A CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE KING OF KINGS!" in a smaller, red, outlined font.
- **Attention all children and teens - there will be a Happy Birthday to Jesus celebration in the fellowship hall after the church service on December 14th. Please join us in wishing Jesus a Happy Birthday. There will be cupcakes and gifts!
 - There will be no Sunday School on December 14th or 28th.
 - We need teacher volunteers—All lessons and activities are planned for you. Each week there are other adults that help. You can sign up for as many or as few Sundays as you like. Please consider working with our wonderful children.

Coffee Host



Hosts are needed for the coffee fellowship Sunday mornings at 9:00. Responsibilities are: brew coffee, set out sugars, creamers, bring something to share, clean up after service. If you have any questions, see Tandy Hobbs. Signup sheet is located outside the kitchen on the InReach board.

PDO

PDO will have their Christmas Program at 9:30am on Monday, December 15. The last day for PDO in December is the 17th.

InReach

In-Reach will be hosting Bingo on Saturday, January 17th for all! Therefore, we expect many winners and need prizes. We are asking you crafty people to donate some of your creations, and if not crafty, please consider picking up gift cards of nominal value, or children & adult coloring books, colored pencils or crayons and if anyone has items worthy of regifting consider donating them for prizes! These are just some ideas. Use your own imagination for Bingo prizes. We will offer any leftover prizes to be taken for a donation. A collection basket will appear near the other collection baskets for your donated Bingo prizes.



God's Peace,

In-Reach

News From the Kitchen

With the 9:00 am social hour on Sundays, many more people are using the kitchen. So, it is time for some reminders.

Because we have the Melting Pot program, Health Department personnel come periodically to inspect our kitchen. They can shut down the program if we are found to be out of compliance. The rules for the kitchen are as follows:

- Large quantities of unlabeled food in the refrigerator or freezer are for the Melting Pot program. Foods put in the refrigerator or freezer by other groups or individuals **must be labeled** with names of responsible parties and the date. They will be disposed of at the 'use by' date.
- **Unlabeled food not for Melting Pot will be thrown away.**
- In the storage area behind the kitchen, three shelves are assigned to the Melting Pot program. Please do not take items from those shelves or store other items there.
- Try to put things where they belong on the labeled shelves so everyone can find what they are looking for.

Thank you from your kitchen volunteers for helping us to keep our kitchen clean, organized and in compliance.



First, a special thank you for everyone who works to enhance each worship service. During the month of December we look forward to lifting our voices in traditional Christmas carols and music as well as new music of the season. The choir/band continues to rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 4:30 - 5:30; we welcome all who wish to contribute their talents. Each Wednesday of Advent will include a meal at 5:45 and special service at 6:30 pm. So come rehearse with us, enjoy a fellowship meal, and then stay for the Advent service. On Sunday December 14th we look forward to a presentation of music featuring the children of OSLC, their energy and voices are a blessing. It has been a pleasure watching the children working together to learn new music and sharing their favorites.

Wishing all of our OSLC a very Blessed Advent and Christmas season.

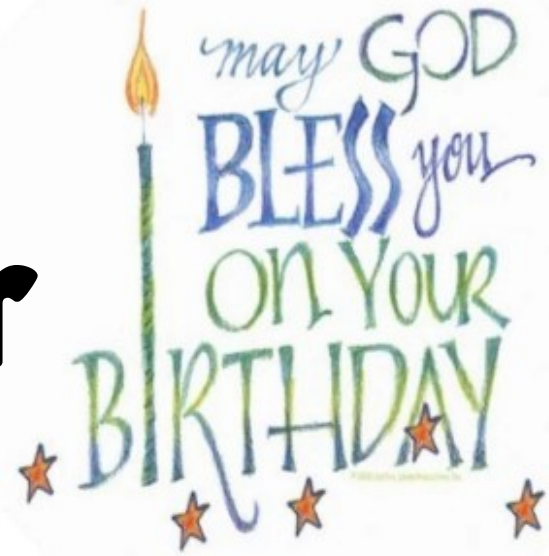
Martha

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

	9am-2pm-PDO	11am-Primetimers Christmas party	9am-2pm-PDO 9-12-BRQ 4:30pm-Choir & Band 5:45pm-Advent Supper 6:30-Advent Service	1	5	6 8:30am-Vet's Breakfast
7 9am-Sunday School/Coffee 10am-Worship	8 9am-2pm-PDO	9 9am-Melting Pot 10-12-Cover Girls 6:30-Council Mtg	10 8am-Melting Pot 9am-2pm-PDO 4:30pm-Choir & Band 5:45pm-Advent Supper 6:30-Advent Service	11 6pm-NAMI	12 	13
14 9am-Sunday School/Coffee 10am-Worship/ Christmas Program 11am-Happy Birthday Jesus party	15 9am-2pm-PDO 9:30aam-PDO Christmas Program	16 1pm-Unity Circle	17 8am-Melting Pot 9am-2pm-PDO 4:30pm-Choir & Band 5:45-Advent Supper 6:30-Advent Service	18	19	20
21 9am-Sunday School/Coffee 10am-Worship	22	23 10-12-Cover Girls	24 6:30pm-Christmas Eve Service	25	26	27
28 9am-Sunday School/Coffee 10am-Worship	29	30	31 4:30pm-Choir & Band			

Birthdays in December



4-Scott Gibson

6-Mary King

6-Bill Ewing

9-Nancy Shilling

10-Marjorie Gumm

18-Aiden Barger

21 –Prudy Zinser

22-Audrey and Adyana King

23-Lakelyn Stacey

26-Allan Forsman

26-Laurel Toft

26-Christy Gillis

31-Danny DeWitt

Thank
you
Volunteers

Volunteer Schedule for December

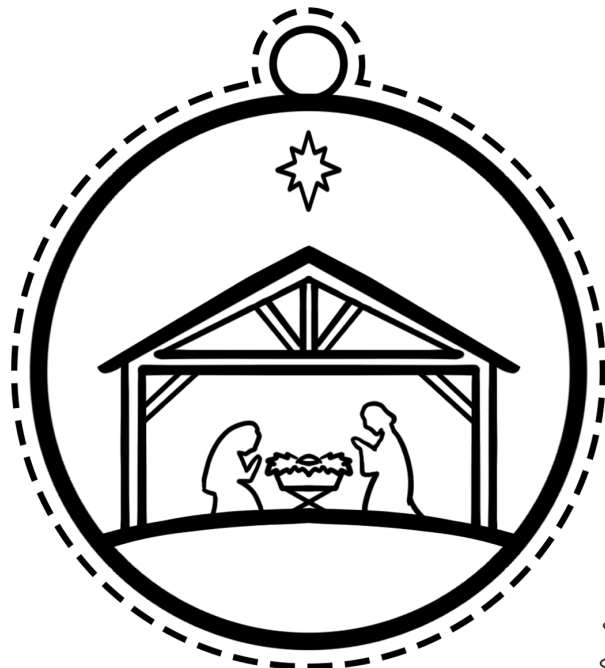
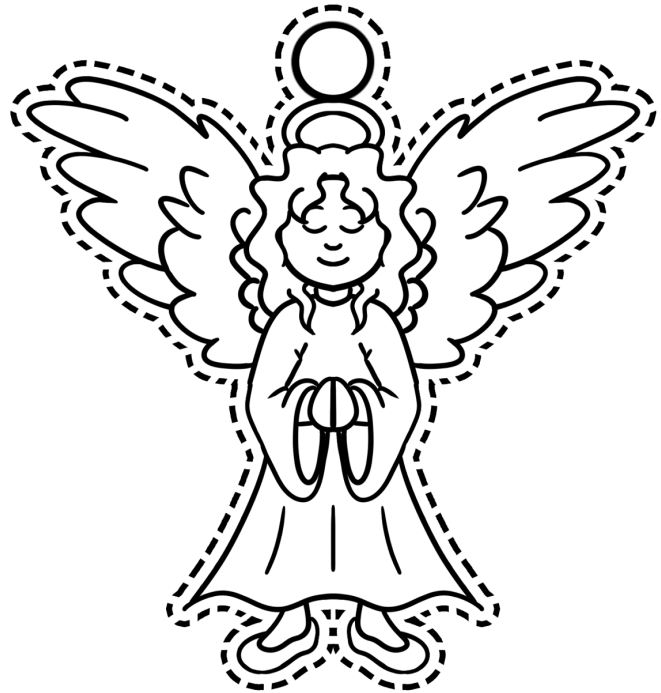
Date	Lector	Usher	Acolyte	Tellers	Comm. Asst.	A/V	Prayer Shawls	Altar Guild
Dec 7@ 10am	Bryon	Carmen & David	Sophia	T & T Hobbs	Diane	Bryon & Travis H	Shilling Neas	P. Zinser
Dec 14 @ 10am	Martha	Cheryl & Dallas	Ronda	McGaughey, Wilson	Brenda	Bryon & Travis H.	Martin, Mattson, Raye	P. Zinser
Dec 21 @ 10am	Carolynn	Travis P & JBP	Asher	JBP, Huff	Laura	Bryon & Travis H.	Milliken, Zinser, Chalkley	L. Patrick
Dec 28 @ 10am	Tom	Ronda & David	Parker	`Forsman, Martelli	Patty	Bryon & Jason	McCoy, Hamilos, Proffitt	L. Patrick
Greeters for Dec: Ricki & Mark Doty								

Christian Crafts

Christmas Ornaments

Instructions

- Color the ornaments
- Cut out the ornaments along the dotted lines
- Use a hole punch to punch a hole in the circle on top of each ornament
- Loop a piece of rope, ribbon, or string through the hole and tie the two ends together.
- Hang the ornaments on your tree or give them as a gift



Julia Foreman