

IMPACT

Hope for Our Future. Building on Our Past

Ministry Story

Technology sometimes seems to be distracting people away from what is truly important in life. How important is technology in our new church building? When the technology doesn't work, it can be frustrating but there are eternal benefits from this service.

Facebook and YouTube are mainstays in our congregation and has been for most of the last several years. One story in particular is about Betty Smith. She was a decades long resident of Odell until a few years ago. While in Odell, Our Savior was not part of her normal routine. In small towns though, we are all neighborly no matter what church you may call home. Various events led Betty to join our Facebook audience. Probably the most significant was her husband, Smitty's funeral, which was held at the church during Covid.

After that point, Betty followed us along with others on our Facebook page. Betty took this one step further and reached out to us to show her appreciation in early 2022. After this we were more than "on screen". We would visit face to face. As she learned about the various things we teach, Betty learned about the things that are taught from the bible in our church.

The culmination of this time together was a request she had for her birthday on May 15th. She wanted to physically be taken to church. Not only did her family bring Betty to church, she was also baptized, confirmed, and received the Lord's Supper. Since then, she has been actively visited by myself, and is a special part of our congregation.

This is Facebook taken to the next level. God works in incredible ways as He showers His blessings upon us.

In God's love and peace, Pastor Greg Stuckwisch

Memorial Fund or Donation Opportunities

We have had interest from people in giving a donation or memorial towards things in our new church facility. We have come up with a list of possible places and items that donations or memorial funds could be channeled. The list below shows you options. Some have specific cost amounts now, but some we won't know until later.

If you are interested in anything, please contact Kris Riggert, the Memorial Chairperson, and she can get you more details. Kris Riggert: 402-520-2890 or kmriggert@gmail.com

- West Side Exterior Double Doors
- East Side Exterior Double Doors
- Interior West Side Double Doors to Sanctuary (6' x 8')
- Interior East Side Double Doors to Sanctuary (6' x 8')
- Interior Center Double Doors to Sanctuary (6' x 8')
- Single Interior Doors (14 of them)
- Sanctuary Ceiling - Wood Ceiling & Beams
- Exterior Electronic Bells/Chimes
- Bell Tower
- Sign
- Steeple
- Audio Visual & Streaming Equipment
- Microphones (different options)
- Speakers (different options)
- Streaming Cameras
- TV Monitor in Lobby for announcements
- TV in Bible Study Room
- Water Fountains
- Coffee Space - Cabinets, sink, faucet, etc.
- Future Furniture for Lobby Space
- Cross on South End



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Hope for Our Future. Building on Our Past Family Stress

There are times when the events of life can make a family feel anxious and stressed. Some of the top stressors are finances, moving, building, and just change in general. Family members can become impatient, irritable, and cross with one another. It's natural to react in this way and as a church family, we may feel this.

We are a family of God, sisters and brothers in Christ. We are also living together with the stress of a financial loan being used for the building of a new worship facility and preparing for a move into this new space. It is no wonder that we might experience tense moments now and in the future. However, our Savior is truly the one in charge of our family. This congregation is His and we are blessed recipients of His love.

I pray that as we move forward together, we keep in mind that God's Spirit of strength and power is with us. We can see all around how God has used our small town congregation to serve Him in His kingdom. God will also give us the fruits of His Spirit which are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self control. These fruits are ours for the taking as long as we take the time to use them. May these fruits abound among us as we serve the Lord here in this place.

May God bless you and keep you in your
Baptismal Grace.

In God's love and peace,
Pastor Greg Stuckwisch

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Odell, Nebraska

Upcoming Activities, Events, Calendar

- **Sunday, December 3** - Light Lunch and Decorate for the Church for the Season! (1st Sunday of Advent)
- **Wednesday, December 6** - Advent Service @ 7:00 pm - Meal @ 6:00 pm by LWML
- **Sunday, December 10** - Caroling and Care Packages at 3:00 pm. Meal and Party to follow.
- **Wednesday, December 13** - Youth Lead Meeting and Party @ 6:00 pm. Advent Service at St. Peter's in Wymore at 7:00 pm. Meal @ 6 pm (Potato Bar)
- **Sunday, December 17** - Children's Christmas Program @ 5:00 pm
- **Wednesday, December 20** - Midweek Christmas Party following School. Advent Service in Harbine at 7:00 pm
- **Sunday, December 24** - Regular Church Service @ 9:00 am. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service @ 7:00 pm
- **Monday, December 25** - Christmas Morning Service @ 9:00 am
- **Sunday, December 31** - Regular Sunday Service @ 9:00 am.
- **Wednesday, January 10** - Midweek Classes Resume. Youth Lead Meeting @ 6 pm

Church Website: oursaviorodellnebraska.com



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On the Construction Side

Work done since last newsletter and work being done currently

- 1) **ROOF/SHINGLES:** Brian Hutchison from Wymore completed the roof in October 2023.
- 2) **BRICK/MASONRY:** Chad Bisseger of CB Masonry in Beatrice has begun the brickwork. Brad Vitosh and Troy Koch were able to pick up and bring the brick to Odell, saving us \$1,000 in delivery fees.
- 3) **SIDING:** Scott Shepler (our framer) will be installing the siding after the mason work is completed
- 4) **HVAC:** Noakes has completed the ductwork. AC units will be installed after drywall. We will need some sort of way to get heat into the building during the drywall stage. IF you have any industrial space heaters or the like, please contact Brad Vitosh.
- 5) **ELECTRICAL:** Diller Electric has roughed in the receptacles, lights, and switches. Running the wire has also been started. Side note: the Eternal Flame Light will be hard wired in at the new church.
- 6) **PLUMBING:** Adams Plumbing is planning to rough in the plumbing at the end of November.
- 7) **SECURITY:** Chad Ray with Security Services has been hired to do a security system. This will not need to be operational until the Fellowship and Education unit is built.
- 8) **AUDIO/VISUAL:** Our church will be installing the audio/video wires ourselves, as the company (Bizco), whom we have contracted can't come until next year. (this will also save us in labor costs) They will get us the schematic. If you can volunteer to help with this project, please contact Brad Vitosh or Lyle Probst.
- 9) **PHONE/INTERNET:** We will be installing the phone/internet wiring ourselves also. Brett Landenberger of Diode has been in communication with Brad Vitosh and is willing to advise us as we process through it.
- 10) **INSULATION:** We will be doing the insulating of the walls and ceiling. We will blow the insulation in the attic after the ceiling is up.
- 11) **DRYWALL:** Dallman Drywall will be doing the drywall and only needs a weeks notice. The goal is for drywall to be in the first half of December.
- 12) **PAINTING:** Painting may be possible mid-end of December. Contact Joyce Kostal if you can help with this.
- 13) **STEEPLE:** Has been ordered. Lead time may be months. (drawing on page)
- 14) **ELECTRONIC BELL SYSTEM:** A Carillon Bell System has been ordered from BRG Precision Products. If you are interested in checking out the different sounds and songs this system will have, please go to brgproducts.com, click on "Song List", then you can listen to a 16 min. demo of different sounds, or see the hymn/song list that is included with the system. There are over 2,200 songs, so this will be an interesting system to have at our church!
- 15) **BELL TOWER:** We are working on a bell tower design and an estimate. Having a free standing bell tower gives us a place to put the speakers for the electronic bells. It will be a three sided tower that represents our Triune God. It will hold a light-weight new bell. Our existing bell will later be used in some manner, possibly in a prayer garden after the fellowship/education wing is finished.
- 16) **RAFTER VENTS:** Installed by Brad Vitosh.
- 17) **DUCTWORK WALLS:** Brad Vitosh is installing walls around vertical ductwork and will install any blocking for TVs, plumbing fixtures, etc.
- 18) **DITCH CULVERTS:** Brad Vitosh has been in contact with the Village and Orville Klecan. He will be taking the current 10" pipe from the east side and installing it on the south end. He will then put a 12" pipe along the east side. The Village will pay for 1/2 of the 12" Pipe. I talked with Orv about ordering the 12" tube that they required. They informed us they would pay for half. Brad has also opened up the culvert on the southeast corner, as requested by the Village.

Upcoming Opportunities to Help and Volunteer with Labor or Other Needs

- Space Heaters (during drywalling)
- Audio/Visual Wiring and running cables
- Phone/Internet Wiring and running cables
- Painting

Please contact Lyle Probst at 402-520-1957 if you can help with anything above! We need you!

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Hope for Our Future. Building on Our Past



Our stained glass windows are currently in production and are over half done. The two photos to the left are our actual windows #1 & #2 - The Nativity & Baptism. The computer renditions below are from Palace Glass and show all windows. This is just the glass and does not show any hand painting that is done on top of the glass - this is why some spaces are blank or non-dimensional.

The story of our stained glass window designs is two-fold. The majority (top) portions of the windows, walk through the stages of Jesus' life. (Nativity, Baptism, Sermon on the Mount, Carrying the Cross, Empty Tomb, & Ascension).

The lower oval panels on the windows represent the Days of Creation

(light, sky, dry land/seas/plants, moon/sun/stars, birds/fish, and lastly, mammals/humans.).

The seventh day God rested, so the altar space in our church and the church itself will represent that day.



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Hope for Our Future. Building on Our Past On the Financial Side

In 2021, Our Savior Lutheran hosted a Commitment Celebration, in which 64 pledge cards were submitted to the financial team. The total amount committed from these cards was: \$544,491.61. Of this amount, a total of \$340,749.92 has been fulfilled, or just over 63% of the total. In addition, \$45,576.76 has been contributed by the Friends of the Congregation group (which includes friends of our church, former members of our congregation, friends, neighbors, and community members). With the Friends total contribution and our Congregation's total contribution, we have reached a total amount of \$386,326.68 raised as of September 30, 2023.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support and commitment. We are in this together.

Summary

\$340,749.92 - Congregation Contributions as of 9/23 (63%)

\$45,576.76 - Friends of the Congregation Contributions as of 9/23

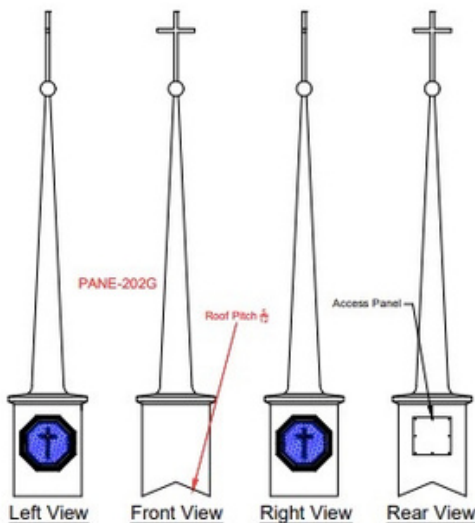
\$386,326.68 - Total Raised as of 9/23

(Total Pledges: \$544,491.61)

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." -- Luke 12:34

Vendor/Contractor Bills and Invoices Payment Process

Invoices and Bills we need to pay are submitted to Bruce Vitosh, who emails them to LCEF. The Vendor/Contractor needs to submit a W9 to LCEF. Our Rep from LCEF then sends a disbursement check that consists of re-issued loan dollars to the Vendor/Contractor as payment.



To the left is what our steeple will look like. The "blue", octagon panels will actually be a frosted look of clear glass - the blue is just the company's drawing. The octagon panels will be on the west and east sides. The front will be blank, and the back has an access panel that doesn't show.

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Pledges of year three should be fulfilled by Palm Sunday of 2024 (March 24, 2024). This will fulfill the the three year pledge cycle started at the beginning of our campaign.

IF you have any questions at all (regarding your pledge/donation status or general financial questions), please contact Paul Kostal (402)239-6269, pkostal.bcc@gmail.com or Betty Warnsing (402)806-1170, w_wwsing@hotmail.com

A special thanks goes out to our "Friends" of the Congregation, who have gone out of their way to support us on this journey. God is leading us, and you are part of where he has led us.

Friends of the Congregation
Coordinator: Joyce Kostal

**Stay up to date!
Ask Questions!**

**Church Website:
oursaviorodellnebraska.com**

**Pastor Stuckwisch: 402-230-0698
or email: oursaviorodell@diodecom.net**



**Watch events, meetings,
activities on our Facebook Page
or YouTube channel**



Our Savior Lutheran Church Odell

Our Savior Lutheran Church
PO Box A
Odell, NE 68415
HOPE FOR OUR FUTURE
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Hope for Our Future. Building on Our Past

From Our Prayer Team

God Our Father

We glorify You as the great architect of creation. Your plan is perfect and Your ways need nothing from us to accomplish Your will. In Your perfect love, You allow us to use what you have given to help others to see that Your love is meant for each and every one. We can only imagine how far and how wide the arms of this church can reach. But You know and You see. Give us the faith and perseverance to carry out our part of Your mission. Not only in the form of a newly standing church building, but as a church which stands on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ and His love for this community and the world around us. To You be the power and the glory forever. Amen

Prayer Director:

Patty Heble

Prayer Team:

Tony Penner, Steve Kostal, Brittney Kotas, Cindy Stohs, & Mary Wieters

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid. Do not be discouraged, the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.--Joshua 1:9

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