

INSPIRE

Hope for Our Future. Building on Our Past

We are motivated by the mission Jesus gave us in Matthew 28:19 "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." We've grown as a congregation in recent years, not just in numbers, but also in the faith and will to do what God wants us to do. God's Word calls us to reach everyone we can and teach them the Gospel and we are doing that as well as we ever have, but when are we done? What lengths are we willing to go to reach every last person? I feel there are people who are excluded from parts of our ministry because of our facility. For example, my late Grandpa loved to sit and talk with his friends at Our Savior, but couldn't come to Easter breakfast and other fellowship events because he couldn't get down the stairs. He also had to plan very carefully before coming to Sunday services because of the lack of main floor restrooms. If I told you the goal we have set in place is an easy one, I would be lying to you. Most churches our size don't build new facilities.

Most churches our size can see their numbers dwindling and are afraid to try anything big in a desperate attempt to hang on to what they have left. But we aren't. Why? Because we have hope, not in our own ability to accomplish our goals but in the strength and power of God. Jesus says to his disciples in Matthew 19:26 "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Let it sink in. Our God who created everything from nothing is on our side. The God we worship and adore has the power to speak this church into existence, so don't fear the future, only have faith that God will guide us where He wants us to go. Proverbs 16:9 says "In their hearts people plan their course, but the Lord places their steps." Our fears and concerns are a part of our human nature. That is hard, but not impossible to let go. Our God is always in control and I really feel like He is calling us right now to do something greater than ourselves. We have this incredible opportunity to show ourselves and our community how powerful our God is by helping us accomplish what we can't accomplish without Him. Proverbs 16:3 "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans

OUR INSPIRE TEAM WILL BE CONTACTING EVERY MEMBER OF OUR CONGREGATION.

THEY WANT EVERYONE TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS PROCESS.

THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE AT CHURCH FEBRUARY 25-27 DURING DIRECTORY PHOTO TIME.

IF THEY DON'T SEE YOU THERE THEY WILL CONTACT YOU TO VISIT WITH YOU DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH.

Our Inspire Team

Our Inspire Director:

Tony Penner.

Team Members:

Jacque Probst,
Anthony Landon,
Brittney Kotas, &
Joyce Wenzbauer



"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight."

--Proverbs 3:5-6

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From Our Prayer Team

Pastor recently preached on the Armor of God that is available to us as mentioned in Ephesians 6:10-17. The shoes we are to take up in this armor are the gospel of peace. These shoes serve two purposes: 1) to help us stand firm and 2) to move us forward. This is extremely applicable in our current season as a church. Just as a barefoot soldier would be fairly ineffective in a battle, we as members of the church of God will be fairly ineffective if we forget to actively "put on" the Peace of God He offers to us. I encourage you to stay in prayer about any and all circumstances you may be going through including this exciting -albeit intimidating- project of building a new facility. Peace WITH God is a gift we receive when we believe in Jesus as our Savior. The Peace OF God is what comes when we keep in constant relationship with Him. We deserve neither but have access to both.



Prayer Director:

Patty Heble

Prayer Team:

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

Prayer Vigil

There is a Prayer Vigil being planned for

March 5th & 6th from 7:00 p.m. on Friday the 5th to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday the 6th.

This is an opportunity to devote yourself to praying for our church, for our community, for any prayer requests that have been received, and for anything you have on your heart to bring before the Lord. You can sign up for a specific time slot on the schedule at church

(I can add your name and time if that works better for you- just let me know)

or drop in whenever you feel God speaking to you to do so.

Prayer can and should be done everywhere and at anytime. But there is something special that comes with committing back to the Lord the precious time He has given to us in order to serve Him - sometimes, maybe, by letting Him stretch us outside of our comfort zones.

Please prayerfully consider participating in this special event.

--Patty Heble - Prayer Director

Prayer for our Campaign

Dear Almighty God, we acknowledge You as the creator and author of real love and peace. You desire for all people to believe and to receive Your gift of salvation. Help us to show and to share the love you have given to us so that others are drawn to You and to the peace that you alone can offer. Guide our plans and decisions during this church building process. May our focus always remain on proclaiming the good things You have done for us, boldly believing in Your promise to be with us, and bringing glory to Your Name. Amen



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Greetings to Our Savior Lutheran Church Family,

After several months of preparing and informing everyone about our capital campaign, it is time to move into the Inspire portion of our campaign. This is the time for each one of us to reflect on what God has blessed us with in our lives.

As I reflect back on the past 50 years that I have been a member of this congregation, I see all of the memories God has blessed me with in this Church. From my own time in Sunday School, confirmation, and LYF, to witnessing the baptism, confirmation, and marriages of my family in this Church.

Our church building has held many memories for so many of us, that is why I believe, we as a family, need to pursue this next step in our church's future.

As our forefathers did 95 years ago, they followed God's calling and built a church building, so we could have all of these memories we have. Now we have that same opportunity to listen to God and build a new facility so we can continue to create memories for our families and future members of Our Savior.

I pray that each one of us will sit back and reflect on all the blessings God has given us and ask ourselves, "What are we willing to sacrifice in our own lives to see that his Word is shared for many years to come at Our Savior Lutheran in Odell?"

God's Blessings and thank you,
Lyle Probst, Campaign Director

Our Campaign Team has published a lot of information up to now. If there is something on this list you do not have, please contact Joyce Kostal-402-239-5810 or joycekostal@yahoo.com

- Campaign Booklet
- Initial Plans/Elevations
- FAQ pages (7 total pages)
- Financial Information Sheets
- First Newsletter
- Youth Survey Results
- Contact Information, Website, etc.

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

Accessible on our Website:

oursaviorodellnebraska.com

- Campaign Booklet
- Campaign Video
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- Youth Survey Results
- Our Campaign Directors



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Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ. I have been asked in a variety of ways, "How will we ever be able to get a new church facility built?" God knows the plans He has for us. With God, all things are possible. This new building is not a job of any one person, this task is shared by all of us.

I thought it might be interesting and helpful to see what some people have said.

- I don't need all my stimulus money, I could use that.
- I can hold out on buying a different vehicle, that payment could go to the church.
- My house is paid off now, I could commit my house payment for 3 years.
- We have inheritance we could use for the new church.
- A load of grain, tax refund check, maybe use what I spend on Mountain Dew.

There are a variety of ways to give but in any case, our commitment is personal with God.

Your servant in the Lord, Pastor Stuckwisch



**"COMMIT YOUR WAY TO THE LORD; TRUST IN HIM,
AND HE WILL ACT."--PSALM 36:5**

Our Campaign Commitment Card

Our Savior Lutheran Church
CAMPAIGN COMMITMENT CARD

With gratitude we give to our God who has promised to do more than we can ask or imagine. We commit ourselves over the next three years to give over and above our usual offerings, and to the ministries of Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email: _____

- I am committed to **PRAYING** for Our Savior Lutheran Church's Hope for our Future, Building on our Past Campaign.
- I am committed to **WORSHIPING** together with the Our Savior Lutheran Church congregation.
- I am committed to **HELPING** where needed during this campaign.
- I/We commit to a **Total 3 year commitment** of \$_____ over and above our regular offerings.

To be contributed as follows: \$_____ Weekly (156 wks), or \$_____ Monthly (36 mos.), or Other \$_____

I plan to contribute via: Campaign Offering Envelopes, or Electronic Withdrawal, or Other _____

I/We also plan to make an **INITIAL COMMITMENT** of \$_____ to show our support of this effort.



Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. (2 Corinthians 9:7-8)

God desires us to have a commitment to Him. Even in the Old Testament there was a question asking people to make a choice.

Joshua 24:15

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

We are primarily asking you to pray, continue to join in worship, and support our congregation.

If there is a monetary commitment, that's good, but the most important commitment we need is God's commitment to us.



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Children & Youth



For those of you who may not know who I am, I am Kaylie Snyder, Children's Emphasis Director. The excitement of building a new facility even has the kids buzzing with fun ideas. To get the kids started we had the kids color their dream church. They could put anything they wanted in them and let me tell you, watching their imaginations run wild was so much fun. We had everything from slides, to swimming pools, and secret passageways. Those will be on display at the church soon. The newest project is that the kids are making their own piggy banks to start collecting coins for their donation to the new church building. It's a way for them to feel involved and also like an important part of this process. More updates to follow soon! --Kaylie Snyder Children's Emphasis Director



Hello everyone. All is well and coming together on the youth side of the capital campaign.

The first step was the questionnaire that they filled out to get a sense of their commitment and interest in our Church and its future.

We got awesome feedback from them, so good, in fact, it allows us to ENTER PHASE 2! At the last LYF meeting on Wednesday, February 10th, I proposed the idea of donating money to furnish/decorate their very own LYF room in the new building. Much like how the adults will be making a three year pledge, I asked them if they would be willing to do the same on a much smaller scale. They were shown how just \$1 dollar a week for a year or three can become a sizable amount of cash, and how easy it is to save that \$1 dollar by not buying a pop or a slice of pizza. Just off the top of my head I came up with movie projector and 120" movie screen as possible items to save up for. But naturally this is all up to them to vote on where the funds will go.

They seemed really excited about the idea. This project has two purposes really. One is to give our youth tangible ownership of a new church and the pride that comes with knowing they helped. Secondly, is learning somewhat of a fiscal responsibility by following through on the dollar a week pledge

I know of two youth whose parents are not active members of Our Savior that regularly attend midweek/LYF. Clearly they are coming because one or more of their peers who is an active member had the courage to talk to them about God and what we are doing at our Church. That is HUGE! It takes a lot of bravery to speak out about God especially at that age and in this current generation. If we have kids doing peer recruiting it speaks volumes of their character and what we are doing at Our Savior. A new, furnished LYF room with "cool" amenities will only draw in more young adults to our Church. I fully believe that. As the old saying goes "the youth are our future," the more we include and give them responsibility the brighter the future is.

Anthony Landon, Youth Emphasis Director

Our Savior Lutheran Church
PO Box A
Odell, NE 68415
HOPE FOR OUR FUTURE
BUILDING ON OUR PAST



Upcoming Commitment Activities

Mark Your Calendars!

Commitment Dinner - March 21; 5 pm

Odell Community Building
Catered Meal by Ricky's

Our Youth Group will be helping serve you.

RSVP by March 10 (for dinner) to

Amy - 402-520-0502 or
amy.vitosh@gmail.com.

Commitment Celebration - March 28 - during 9:00 am Church Service

We have chosen Palm Sunday (March 28) for our Commitment Celebration. Choosing Palm Sunday we are nearing the end of the Lenten Season; a season of devotion and commitment on our side to God. Then we may focus completely on Jesus' commitment for us during Holy Week and Easter.

Each year, on, or by, Palm Sunday will be when our one year commitments are due.

Our Commitments Team

Director:

Amy Vitosh

Team:

Donnetta Hajek,
Cindy Stohs,
Samantha Penner
Mary Ellen Maginnis,
& Betty Warnsing

