

THE CONNECTION

Our Savior Lutheran Church Newsletter | February 15, 2026



Our Savior celebrates three Baptismal rites on Sunday, February 8, 2026 (p. 3-4).



**Please keep the following
OSL church members in prayer:**

Haroldo Camacho, Jade Cruz, Marianne DeMinck, Roger Detwiler, Janice Evans, Howard Fischer, Sue Franjione, Betty Hea, Bob Johnson, Prentis Johnson, Robert Latimer, James Leone, Anthony Linley, Les Mellott, Malcolm Sears, Jennifer Sird-De La Horra, Robert Spencer, Linda Verdi, Nancy Volz, and Jodi Waldron.

Members & Family in the Armed Services:

Dustin Douglas (son-in-law of Les and Juli Mellott) at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Tacoma, WA; **Scott Tucek** (son of Carol Tucek) at Yokota Air Base in Japan.

Rehabilitation Home: Ron Holub

SUN. 2/15

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services
Bake Sale—9 a.m. | Bible Study—9:15 a.m.
Kids Connect—10:30 a.m.

MON. 2/16

*Campus closed in observance of
PRESIDENT'S DAY*

TUES. 2/17

Property Board Meeting—6:30 p.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY 2/18

Discussion Group: Christian Movies—10 a.m.
LENTEN WORSHIP—12:15 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Handbells Practice—6:30 p.m.

THURS. 2/19

Schedule open

FRI. 2/20

Church office closed

SAT. 2/21

Global Groove—4 p.m. (p. 4)

SUN. 2/22

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services
Bible Study—9:15 a.m.
Kids Connect—10:30 a.m.
Birthday Club —12:30 p.m.

MON. 2/23–TUES. 2/24

Schedule open

WED. 2/25

Discussion Group: Christian Movies—10 a.m.
LENTEN WORSHIP—12:15 p.m.
Handbells Practice—6:30 p.m.

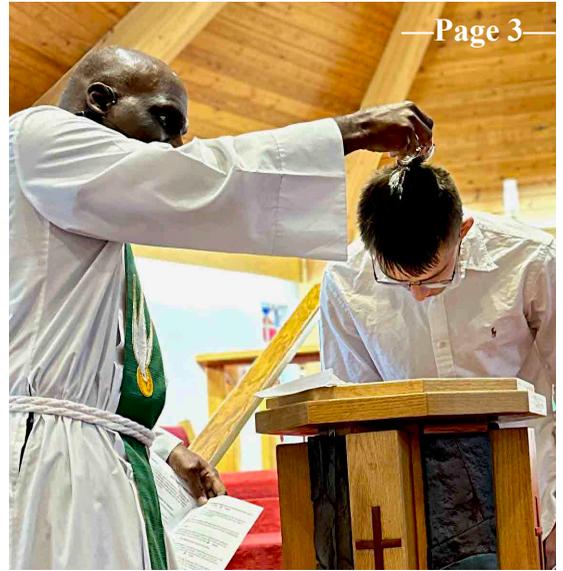
THURS. 2/26

Church Planning Council Meeting—6 p.m.

FRI. 2/27–SAT. 2/28

Church office closed





BAPTISMS We joyfully celebrated the baptisms of three young people at Our Savior Lutheran Church. At the 8:00am service, **Reid Himmelsbach**, a 16-year-old who has been attending the early service, received the gift of Holy Baptism. At the 10:30am service, OSLs parents Astrid and Jordan Hall celebrated the baptisms of two of their daughters, **Sylena** and **June**. Welcome to God's family! May He keep you in the promises given through Baptism.



The Hall family celebrates a double baptism on Sunday, February 8, 2026 (p. 3).



**Our Savior
Lutheran
Church & School**
8001 NW 5th Street, Plantation, FL 33324

Global Groove

A Multicultural Celebration

International Food, Entertainment, and Crafts
Saturday, February 21, 2026 | 3-6 pm

FREE EVENT

For more information, contact Our Savior Lutheran School at (954) 370-2161.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, EDITH: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!

We joyfully celebrate Edith Southerton as she turns 100 years old on Tuesday, February 10, 2026! Students from OSLs surprised her with one hundred birthday cards. What a remarkable milestone, and what a blessing she has been over the years at Our Savior. Please join us in congratulating Edith on becoming a centenarian and wishing her many blessings in the days ahead.

Pictured with Edith are her great granddaughter, Lilith (who also had her first birthday) along with her son Steven and granddaughter Kristina.

A morning of community service at multiple local sites

BLESS BROWARD



MARCH 14, 2026

SCAN TO



SIGN UP

- **Ft. Lauderdale Beach Park**—shore clean up
- **Lippman Youth Shelter**—Serenity Garden planting
- **Homes of the Needful**—grocery delivery and prayer
- **Port Everglades**—delivering care packages to boat crew members
- **Local Homebound**—spring caroling to seniors and the grieving

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School Annual Fund 2025-2026



IT'S TIME TO MAKE A CHANGE!

The “Saints Sports Court”



Fun for Everyone!

Our new “Saints Sport Court” is a safe, modular surface that will meet the needs of our students during the day and our athletic teams after school.

It will also provide the perfect space for our community to play a wide variety of sports, safely, right on our campus, promoting a healthy lifestyle within our school and church family.

Imagine a space for basketball, volleyball, pickleball or street hockey ...a place for tournaments, athletic leagues, parties and family gatherings. This dream will be come a reality with your help!

We need to raise at least \$150,000 for this major enhancement to our school and church property and programs.

Here is how you can help...

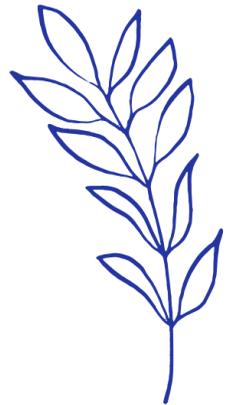
- Give what you can...we need to raise \$150,000 to fund this major improvement. Your gift of \$100, \$250 or any amount will move us closer to our goal!
- Pray daily for Our Savior Lutheran Church and School and for the ever growing vision of our campus.
- Please donate online at Cash, as well as checks, are accepted in the office.



Our Gratitude Grows with Every Gift!

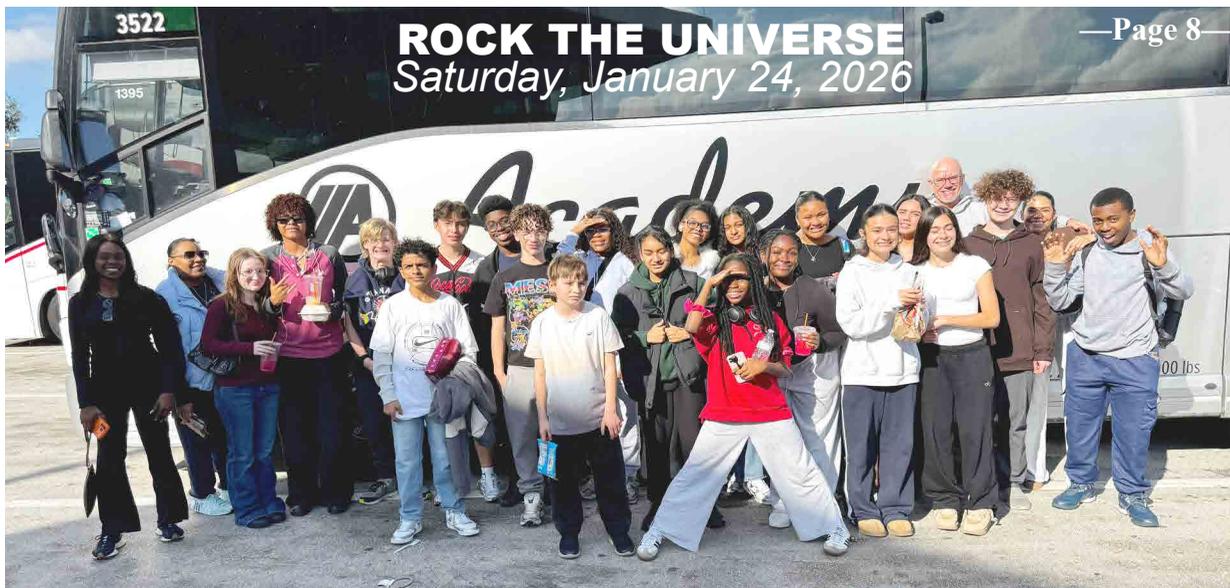
Your donations are greatly appreciated! Our community thrives because of supporters like you. Help us grow our roots even deeper. Our “Tree of Giving” will be displayed for generations to come. For a donation of \$500, a bronze leaf with your name will be displayed on the tree. For a donation of \$1,000, a silver dove with your name will be displayed around the tree. For a donation of \$2,500, your name and inscription on a gold stone will be displayed near the base of the tree.

\$500 Donation	Bronze Leaf
\$1,000 Donation	Silver Dove
\$2,500 Donation	Gold Stone



ROCK THE UNIVERSE

Saturday, January 24, 2026



January 24, 2026, twenty teens from Our Savior Lutheran (OSL) travelled to Universal Studios, Orlando to enjoy an evening of Christian band performances and park rides. Every January the theme park holds a 2-night event called Rock the Universe, where well-known Christian artists perform at scheduled times on stages throughout the park until midnight. This year, Our Savior took high school and seventh- and eighth-grade students to the second night of Rock the Universe by charter bus. Four school parent chaperones accompanied them. *(Continued on next page...)*



ROCK THE UNIVERSE (cont.) “We got to listen to God’s word in the music and see other youth from all around,” said Olivia Jones (8th grade). This congregation’s Women’s Group and several generous church members made donations to cover the cost of the trip for six of the students who participated. This congregation’s Our Savior’s praise band drummer, Delon Wright (8th grade) said, “I loved hearing a band at the event performing the song Glorious Day that we sometimes play in church on Sundays.” Thursday after the trip, Pastor Tony baptized Delon during school with students and faculty present (p.11).

Many thanks to Chaperones Jeyson and Fassira Jones, Kim McEachrane and Nicky Singh and to all who sponsored youth with monetary contributions making the trip to Rock the Universe possible.





Treasures From Your Trunk Sale

Saturday, January 31, 2026

Thank you everyone who showed up to support the church through our Treasures From Your Trunk sale! It was truly a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and meeting neighbors.





SNOW DAY



GRANDPARENT'S DAY

OSLS National Lutheran Schools Spirit Week
(January 26–30, 2026)



PET PARADE



FIELD DAY

Welcome to the Family, Delon!
Thursday, January 29, 2026

On January 29, 2026, our school family had the joy of celebrating a truly special and heartwarming baptism for Delon Wright, whom many already know and love as the newest—and youngest—talented drummer on our 10:30 Praise Team. While baptisms usually take place in church, this beautiful moment took place during the school hours, surrounded by cheering classmates and teachers—his friends and family in Christ. With the middle school classes and his father in attendance, the room was filled with love, encouragement, and unity. When the ceremony concluded, his classmates burst into loud cheers and applause, making the moment unforgettable and a joyful reminder of the strong, faith-filled community we share. We pray that God guides him in his spiritual growth!



2026 Chili Cook-Off Winners:

1st Place-Nicole Linley

2nd Place-Agnes Karabetsov



On Saturday, February 7, 2026, we had a wonderful turn out of 33 taste-testers and 9 amazing cooks. Nicole took first place with her smokey chili, Agnes following second with her pumpkin-based chili.



FEBRUARY FLOWERS



As of this Sunday, we now have \$2,507 in our flower fund. That is enough to cover two bouquets for 50 Sundays.

FLOWER DONATIONS

If you would like to direct your contribution toward our **general flower fund**, please write "Flower Fund" on the memo line or envelope.

For **personal orders**, kindly fill out the **Chancel Flower Sign-Up** slip (on the back of the newsletter) and include it with your payment. We currently only accept checks, cash, or VANCO payments. Please notify the church office when giving through the VANCO* app or website.

**If you choose to give by credit card (via VANCO), please consider including the processing fee so the church receives the full amount of your gift.*



**MITE BOXES ARE AVAILABLE
IN THE CHURCH NARTHEX.**



Scan the QR code above or visit www.lwml.org/mites to learn more about the history of Mite Boxes.

Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of "mites" — offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and the LCMS. Mite Box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national mission grants and implement the LWML program.



WHAT TO EXPECT FOR TITHES, OFFERINGS, & YEAR-END STATEMENTS IN 2026

Dearest brothers and sisters in Christ,

Starting January 2026, Our Savior Lutheran Church will start a new method of recording your monetary gifts, tithes, and offerings.

Offering envelopes were originally designed to provide financial records for registered members, primarily for tax deduction purposes. Due to changes in tax deductions, this accounting is no longer necessary for your tax returns.

Following current tax law guidelines, **Our Savior will no longer track individual offerings.** It will now be your personal responsibility to keep records of your gifts, tithes, and offerings. Hence, **the church office will no longer provide any year-end giving print outs for your taxes.** Any donation receipts, if required, will be handled as per the tax law guidelines.

After careful review and consultation with our finance team, we confirmed that **the church is legally required to provide written receipts only for single, undivided contributions of \$250 or more.** Therefore, going forward, if you wish to receive a paper receipt, contributions must be made as a single, bulk donation of the aforementioned amount. These receipts will be generic and simple in nature in consideration of our volunteer-based and limited staffing. Please expect only the date of deposit, total contribution amount, the church's EIN, and a statement confirming that no goods or services were provided in exchange for the generous donation.

Please be assured that Our Savior Lutheran Church will continue to maintain a system of internal checks and balances when collecting, counting, depositing and documenting service collections, as required by tax law.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and generosity.

In Christ,
Your Office Staff & Volunteers
Our Savior Lutheran Church

✦ **SIMPLIFY YOUR GIVING WITH** **vanco** ✦

(NO TECH SKILLS REQUIRED!)

Tired of rising check costs?

There's an easier way to contribute—**secure, scheduled giving through VANCO.**

Why Make the Switch?

- Checks are getting expensive
- Scheduled bank transfers are **FREE**
- You stay in full control of your giving
- Helps reduce envelope costs and paper waste

Did you know?

Offering envelopes were originally created when most people gave cash and loose change. Today, many contributors give by check or electronically, which helps us cut down on printing costs and minimize waste.

If you're still giving by check and are concerned about privacy, **you can simply fold it and place it in the offering plate—no envelope needed!**

Need Help Setting It Up?

We understand that setting up online giving can feel intimidating—but we're here to help every step of the way.

Contact **Mika** at **(954) 473-6888** or **stop by the church office** during business hours. She'll walk you through the setup—or take care of it for you!

What You'll Need:

- Your **bank account and routing number** (preferred)
 - Or your **credit/debit card details**
- (Note: Credit card donations include a ~3% processing fee)*

Choose the Giving Schedule That Works for You:

You can set your donations to recur:

one-time, weekly, biweekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually.

You pick the start and end date.

Need to make changes later? Just call or email—we'll handle it.

Real Support. Real People.

Don't worry if you're "not techy." Our staff is here to help, and you'll only need to set this up once. After that, it's automatic and stress-free.

 Still not sure? Ask your bank about their **Bill Pay** or **ACH transfer** services—these can be free or lower-cost alternatives to giving by personal checks or credit card.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

FEB 1

Connor Brangan

FEB 2

Janice Evans

FEB 4

Denis Cruz

FEB 5

Patricia Jablansky

Preston Strickman

FEB 7

Timothy Brangan

FEB 9

Erica Betz

FEB 10

Edith Southerton

FEB 12

Ingrid Pisasik

FEB 14

Tammy Weidner

FEB 15

Cary Ehrenfeld

FEB 18

Bradley Bhalai

Dolor Ginchereau

FEB 19

David Volz

FEB 25

Pastor Tony Durante

FEB 26

Linda Verdi

FEB 28

Maureen Burrows

FEB 29

Olga Gotting

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

FEB 2

James & Jodi Hurst

(6)

FEB 24

Michael & Desiree Gaffley

(47)

FEB 29

Robert & Rosemary Johnson

(62)

*Please help us update
our computer
databases!*

If you are a member and have not seen your birthday or anniversary listed in our newsletter, kindly contact Mika at, (954) 473-6888 or mdurante@oursaviorplantation.org.

Not sure if you're a member? Contact us. We'd love to help you find out!



CONNECT GIVE SHARE



[YouTube](#)

(Our Savior Lutheran Church Plantation)



[Online Offering](#)



[Instagram](#)

(@osl.church)



[Facebook](#)

(OSLSAINTS)



Our Savior Lutheran Church & School

8001 NW 5th Street, Plantation, Florida 33324

CHURCH

(954) 473-6888

www.oslplantation.church

Tony Durante, Pastor

tdurante@oursaviorplantation.org

Mika Durante, Administrative Assistant

mdurante@oursaviorplantation.org

SCHOOL

(954) 370-2161

www.oslplantation.school

Linda Root, Principal

lroot@oursaviorplantation.org

Danielle Durham, Assistant Principal

ddurham@oursaviorplantation.org

Easter Lily Order Form

All orders are due **Sunday, March 15th.**

If you wish to donate an Easter lily plant as a memorial or as a gift to adorn the chancel during the Easter season, please let us know by returning this form with payment attached. We currently only accept checks made out to "Our Savior Lutheran Church", cash, or VANCO payments*.

If using a **credit card on VANCO, please consider including the **processing fee** to help cover the full cost of flowers.*

Please print names clearly.

Name: _____

In Honor/Memory/Celebration Of: _____

For office:

Paid:

Number of Plants Desired (\$25 Ea.): _____

