

THE CONNECTION

Weekly Newsletter



September 27, 2026



*Our Savior celebrates newly weds, Helena and Guy.
Sunday, September 20, 2026 (p.4)*

SUN. 9/27

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services
Confirmation Class | Bible Study—9:15 a.m.
First Communion | Kids Connect—10:30 a.m.
3rd Annual Crafters Marketplace—9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Birthday Club—12 p.m.

MON. 9/28– TUES. 9/29

Schedule open

WED. 9/30

Discussion Group—11 a.m.
Handbells Practice—6:30 p.m.



THURS. 10/1

Schedule open

FRI. 10/2–SAT. 10/3

Church office closed

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 10/4

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services
Bible Study—9:15 a.m.
Confirmation Class —9:15 a.m.
Kids Connect—10:30 a.m.

MON. 10/5

Schedule open

TUES. 10/6

Office Hours: 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

WED. 10/7

Office Closed

Discussion Group—11 a.m.
Handbells Practice — 6:30 p.m.

THURS. 10/8

Office Hours: 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

FRI. 10/9

Church office closed

SAT. 10/10

Properties Work Day—9 a.m.

—Page 2—

NOTE FROM THE OFFICE:

From **October 6th through the 22nd**, the **church office** will be running on **modified office hours**. During this time, volunteers will be covering the office, so our services may be limited. They will take phone messages, and non-urgent emails will be replied to once we resume normal office hours. We will also suspend newsletter production for the month of October. If you wish to see the upcoming schedule, check this edition of the newsletter by keeping your hard copy or going to our website under "Keeping Current". If you have any questions, please check the following schedule and call (954) 473-6888. Thank you for your support and understanding.

SUN. 10/11

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

MON. 10/12

Office Closed

TUES. 10/13

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WED. 10/14

Office Closed

Discussion Group—11 a.m.
Handbells Practice — 6:30 p.m.

THURS. 10/15

Office Hours: 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

FRI. 10/16

Church office closed

SAT. 10/17

Church office closed
Street Profess—10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING OSL CHURCH MEMBERS 🙏:

Carol Chaddock, Roger Detwiler, Howard Fischer, Sue Franjione, Susan George-Kenyon, Karen Goth, Gerry Gruenbaum, Betty Hea, Bob Johnson, Prentis Johnson, Robert Latimer, James and Pam Leone, Jack Lowe, Carol (Coram) Ross, Beverly Smith, Robert Spencer, Linda Verdi, and Jan and Steve Withers.

MEMBERS & FAMILY IN THE ARMED SERVICES: **Dustin Douglas** (son-in-law of Les and Juli Mellott) at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Tacoma, WA; **Brock Van Sant** at Officer Candidate School in Quantico Bay, VA.

REHABILITATION HOME: Ron Holub

*If you have prayer requests, please let us know by filling out a **Connect Card** or **colored prayer card** found in the pews. Our Prayer Team (Debi Bauer, Norma Miller, Robert Spencer, and Jodi Waldron) will gather the cards and pray for those needs. For personal prayers and/or additional spiritual guidance, please contact Pastor Tony at (954) 473-6888.*



Baptism of Our Savior Lutheran School student **Lauren Mclean** on **Wednesday, September 23, 2026** during school chapel.

SUN. 10/18

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. 10/19

Office Closed

Women's Group Meeting—6:30 p.m.

TUES. 10/20

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

School Board Meeting—6 p.m.

WED. 10/21

Discussion Group—11 a.m.

Handbells Practice—6:30 p.m.

THURS. 10/22

Office Hours: 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

FRI. 10/23

Church office closed

SAT. 10/24

Church office closed

Trunk or Treat—3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.



EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Tuesday, 10/6 - Thursday, 10/22

If you need to visit in person, we kindly ask that you **first confirm** with a staff member **and schedule an appointment in advance** to ensure someone is available to receive you if the need arises.

Pastor Tony will be out of town on vacation during this time. For ministry needs in his absence, please leave a message for **Brad** or **Jade** at **(954) 473-6888**.

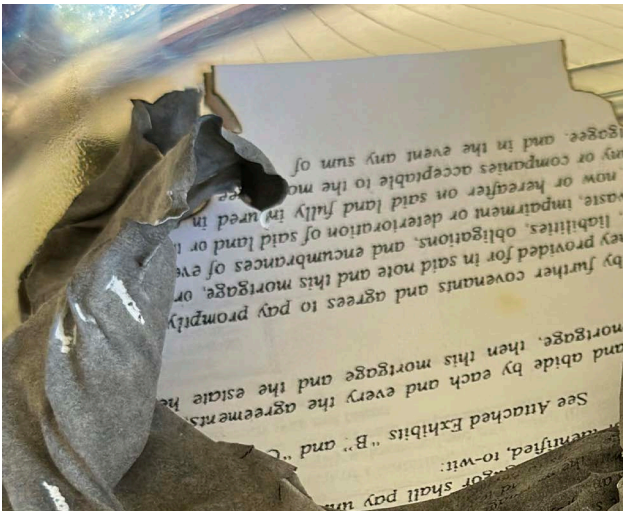




A MARRIAGE IN HARMONY 🎵

Congratulations to Helena De Torres and Guy Shepherd, who were married in a private ceremony surrounded by family and close friends following the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, September 20, 2026. Both have shared their musical gifts with Our Savior over the years, Helena as an occasional soloist and Guy as a former music teacher, Praise Team leader, and substitute musician—to name a few roles. May God bless their marriage and their life together in Christ!



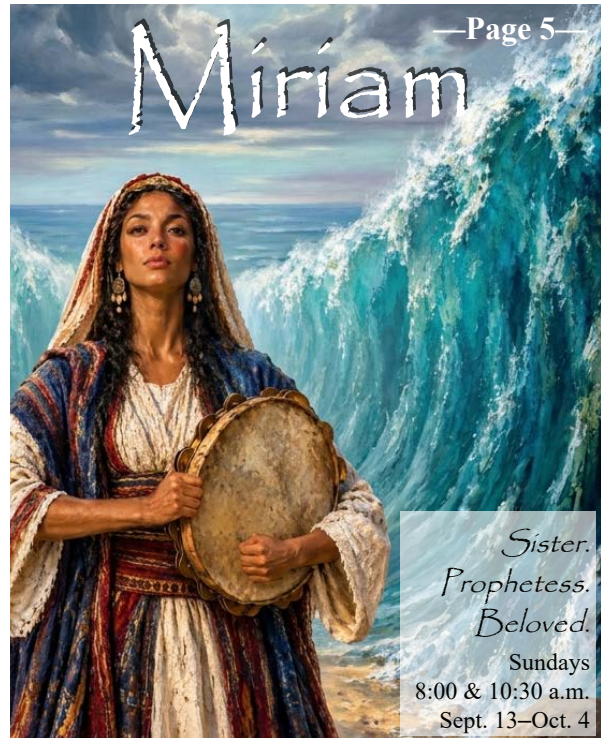


**LET THERE BE LIGHT...
AND NO MORE MORTGAGE!!!**

Member **Pat Maahs**, who passed away on December 14, 2025, posthumously gifted \$203,412 to Our Savior Lutheran Church—a remarkable gift that completely paid off our remaining mortgage loan.

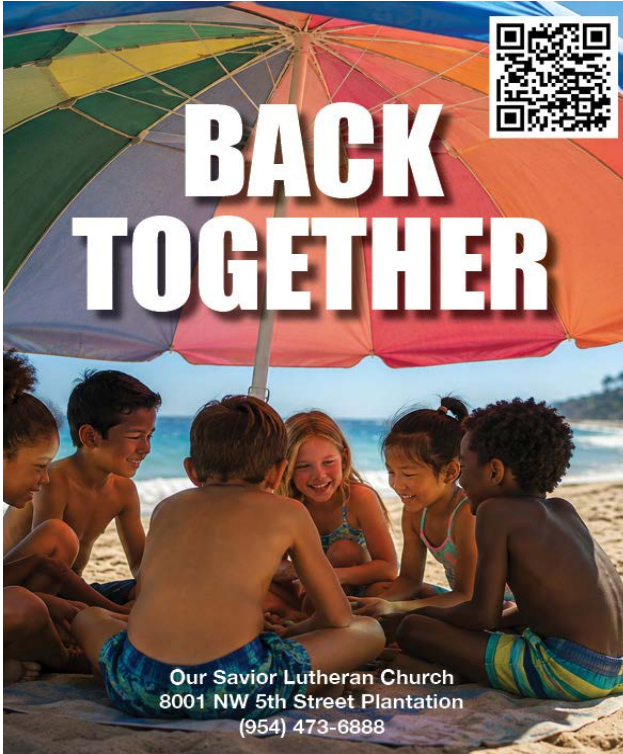
—Page 5—

Miriam



*Sister.
Prophetess.
Beloved.*

Sundays
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Sept. 13–Oct. 4





BACK TOGETHER

Our Savior Lutheran Church
8001 NW 5th Street Plantation
(954) 473-6888



LifeNet4Families

LifeNet4Families urgently needs men's clothing. Used, clean items are welcomed.

DO NOT drop off items at the church; instead, email Carol Reynolds-Srot, OSL church member and a volunteer at LifeNet4Families, at trinisrot@bellsouth.net if you have items you would like to donate.

SHOW DOGS OF THE WEEK: MARY & RAUL'S COLLIES

—Page 6—

For more than 30 years, we traveled all across the United States showing Collies. We were involved in what is called conformation showing, where dogs are judged on how closely they match the breed standard. For Mary, it wasn't just about winning. She loved everything that came along with showing her dogs—the preparation, the grooming, the traveling, the shows, meeting other people who loved Collies, and most of all, being around her dogs.

Mary first started with the traditional sable-and-white Collie, the kind of Collie most people recognize from Lassie. That was the dog that introduced us to the



world of Collies and dog showing. From there, we went on to the tris, which are the black-and-white Collies, and eventually the blues, which have that beautiful silvery, bluish-black coloring.



All of the collies are related. The two blue collies are the father Diesel (the bigger one of the two) and Harlow. The tris are the son Marco and the mother Ashley (the skinnier of the two tris). Of the four, the two girls still live with Raul. The two boys have been adopted by loving friends.

Mary had very high standards for her dogs. When she had puppies, she would carefully decide which ones met her requirements. Those puppies had the potential to become show dogs, and if one was selected, it would begin its journey on the show circuit. The goal was to eventually have that dog earn its championship.

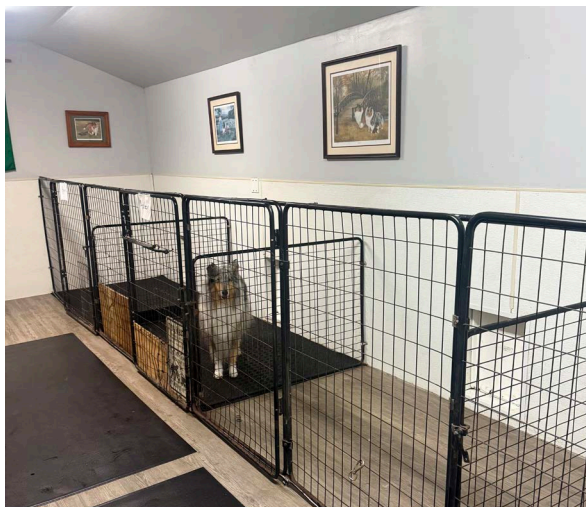
That meant a lot of time, work, patience, and traveling.

The kids became involved in it too. Our children even participated in junior handling, which gave them the opportunity to show dogs themselves. So, what started as Mary's passion became something that our whole family experienced together.

When I look back now, I realize just how big a part of our life dog showing really was.

At the time, I have to be honest—I was not really a big dog person. Dogs were Mary's thing. I went along with it because Mary loved it, and because the kids enjoyed it too. I supported her because I knew how much happiness the dogs and the shows brought her.

(Cont. →)



MARY & RAUL'S COLLIES (CONT.)

Now that Mary has passed away, the dogs have taken on a completely different meaning for me.

When I look at them, I see a connection to Mary.

They remind me of her.

So, I kept the dogs. As you can see the dogs have their own house (pictured above). They prefer their house than coming inside to my house. I have learned to love them, and now they are a part of my life.

-Raul Martinez

**SATURDAY
10. 24. 2026
3-5:30 P.m.**

**Trunk
or
Treat**

**HOW YOU
CAN HELP:**

- Donate candy (box in church narthex)
- Decorate your trunk



**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
8001 NW 5TH ST.
PLANTATION, FL 33324**

**To RSVP your trunk,
contact Judy at (954) 473-6888 .**



PICTURES:

1. Sky and Luna with Carol. 2. Sky and Luna, the dynamic duo. 3. Luna with her mom, Kelly. 4. Sky naps with her dad, Duane.

PETS OF THE WEEK: SROT FAMILY'S DOGS

Luna is a 4-year-old Shih Tzu mix and is the four-legged daughter of Kelly Srot. She loves belly rubs, sunning in her grandparents' back yard, and puts herself to bed by 9 p.m. Luna is terrified of thunder, lightning, and loud noises. On weekdays, when her Mom heads to work as a preschool teacher, Luna gets dropped off at Grandpa Duane and Grandma Carol's house and spends the day with her Auntie Sky. Sky is a 5-year-old (mostly) Chihuahua-mini pinscher mix. She is the four-legged sister of Kelly and daughter to Carol Reynolds-Srot and Duane Srot. She lives with food allergy sensitivities and must take medication daily, eats homemade food, and feasts only on organic snacks. She never tires of playing fetch and loves when people come to visit (see photo with Pastor Tony on [p.11](#)). Mostly, she adores snoozing on the couch with her dad.



CURRENT WOMEN'S GROUP SERVICE PROJECT:

HELP MOMS & BABIES IN NEED

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Broward County (HMHB/Broward) helps low-income pregnant and parenting families throughout Broward County by providing education, parenting support, access to vital services, and assistance with basic needs. Their goal is to help families become healthier, more stable, and better equipped to care for their children.

DONATION NEEDS

We are collecting **clean, gently used and usable** baby items, including:

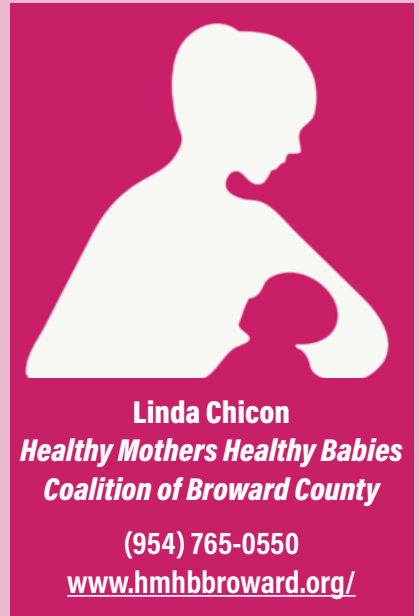
-  Baby clothing—all sizes  Baby shoes
-  Diapers—all sizes  Nonperishable food
-  New holiday toys*—appropriate for infants & children

Our Savior will collect them in the **big donation box** in the **narthex** (pictured below).

Please **label** donations: “HEALTHY MOTHERS HEALTHY BABIES”

There is *no deadline**, so donations may be brought in at any time. Thank you for helping provide practical support to mothers, babies, and families in our community!

**For the toy drive deadline, please contact the above number.*



CRAFTED TO GIVE: HANDMADE CARDS BY THE LADIES OF OUR SAVIOR

The ladies' card crafting group's first Sunday sale was a hit! Their one-of-a-kind handmade cards are selling quickly, with some designs already sold out. (Especially popular are cards with little surprises, such as packets of seeds and handmade bookmarks 🧐).

Featuring paper quilling, embossing, precision cutting, and personal touches, these high-quality cards are a lovely way to let someone know you're thinking of them. Get yours for \$5 after either worship service on Sunday! Cash only. All proceeds benefit the OSL School Multipurpose Sports Court Fund. Questions? Contact **Judy** at (954) 473-6888.



SAVE THE DATE!
(DETAILS COMING SOON.)



Christmas is coming! Once again, Our Savior is selling one of your favorite holiday gifts—fresh Christmas wreaths! Spread holiday cheer with a handcrafted wreath made from fresh balsam, perfect for your home, office, or as a heartfelt gift. Order yours today and bring home the fresh scent of Christmas! **Sales are from October 1st to 31st only.**

What You Get:

- 24" Fresh Balsam Wreath
- 3 white-tipped pine cone clusters
- 1 red velour bow

OPTION 1

\$33 Wreath Only (No Box or Card)

Local pick-up only coordinated with Ellen

OPTION 2

\$43 Gift-Boxed & Shipped by UPS

UPS shipping available to gift recipient (within 48 contiguous states). With personalized card.

Proceeds: Kids Connect (Sunday School)

Payment: Cash or checks made payable to Our Savior Lutheran Church Youth

For more information, please contact
ELLEN at (954) 473-6888 .

ANNUAL POTLUCK THANKSGIVING FEAST

12:15 PM
Sunday, Nov. 15, 2026



Our Thanksgiving Church Feast is a cherished gathering, where hearts draw near and the threads of gratitude, fellowship, and faith are gently woven into one.

Side by side at the table, we share more than a meal—we share moments that bind us.



Stories unfold like autumn leaves on the wind, laughter lingers like a hymn, and new friendships quietly take root.



8001 NW 5th Street
Plantation, FL 33324

Please contact **Ellen** at (954) 473-6888 if you have any questions.



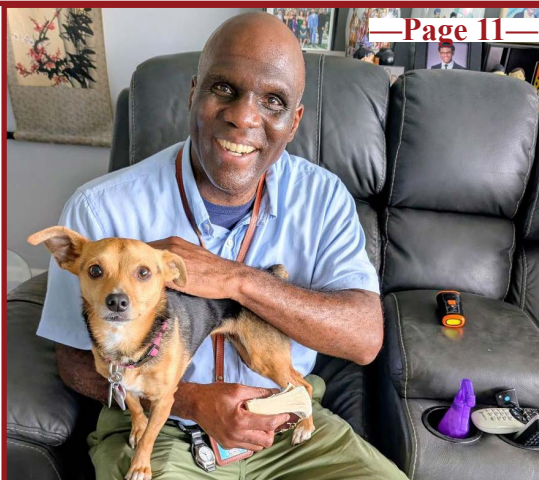
ALTAR FLOWERS UPDATES



Kindly fill out the Chancel Flower Sign-Up slip and include it with your payment. These are found on the back of the newsletter or in the pews (green slip). Please include it with your payment. Please notify us if you are paying via VANCO.

The flowers adorning the chancel this Sunday were graciously provided by the Flower Fund.

PLEASE NOTE: All altar flowers will be gathered and held in the church office immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. This will ensure that flowers paid for by members are received by the intended recipients. Thank you!



BIRTHDAYS

SEP 23

Harry Haeseker

SEP 25

Frank Ahrens

Lauren Bhalai

SEP 26

Anne Chiaro

SEP 27

Nancy Volz

SEP 28

Dorothy Royce

SEP 30

Emmanuel Kifle

OCT 1

Bailey De La Horra

OCT 2

Kristin Iannarone

OCT 5

Charles Hofman

OCT 6

Jan Banasco

OCT 16

Paul Chang

OCT 17

Bill Burkhardt

Ellen Clark

De'Mereck Martin

OCT 18

Linda Stannard

OCT 19

Arlene Lyth

OCT 21

Oteasa Hardy

OCT 25

Colin Orrett

OCT 27

Ann Papp

OCT 28

Rosemary Johnson

Carol Reynolds-Srot

OCT 29

Thomas Boatwright

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

OCT 10

Derby & Oteasa Hardy (16)

Glen & Cheryl Walters (28)

OCT 18

Susan George-Kenyon & William (23)

OCT 23

Rolf Fischer & Reina Coello Fischer (11)

OCT 29

Haroldo & Mercedes Camacho (21)



OSLS Saints Sing "Shining Light Series"



2026-2027

Oct. 4

Nov. 8

Jan. 24

Feb. 7

Mar. 21

May 16

2nd and 3rd Grade

Kindergarten and 1st Grade

NLSW K-8th grade

Preschool

4th and 5th Grade

Singing Saints



Our Savior Lutheran Church
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship



HELP US UPDATE UR DATABASE

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

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



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



ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS



Kindly fill out the **Chancel Flower Sign-Up** slip and include it with your payment. These are found below or in the pews. We currently only accept checks, cash, or VANCO payments. Please notify the church office when giving through the VANCO app or website.



CHANCEL FLOWERS SIGN-UP



If you would like to have flowers on the altar on a given Sunday in honor of someone, in memory of a loved one, or to commemorate a birthday, etc., all you need to do is fill out this form and put it in the offering plate. The cost is \$25.00 per order; two pieces would cost \$50.00. Call the church office if you have any questions, (954) 473-6888.

Name: _____

Date you would like flowers: _____

In Honor, Memory, Celebration, or Thanksgiving of _____



Check this box if you would like to collect your flowers after the 10:30 a.m. service.

We will hold them in the church office.

Any unclaimed flowers will be donated to a local nursing home. Thank you.

FOR OFFICE:

of bouquets _____

\$ _____

☐ Paid ____/____/____