



THE MESSENGER

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am
Fellowship 9:15am
Saturday Worship: 5:30pm

OFFICE HOURS

9:00-11:00 am
Monday & Wednesday

OV YOUTH

Confirmation student & parent
meeting Sept 2
Sunday School starts Sept 13

No
Lutefisk
Dinner
this year

**Food Pantry - Item
of the Month**
Donate Cans of
Tomato or Cream of
Mushroom Soup
Drop off in the
entryway.
Thanks for your
donations.



RALLY SUNDAY

September 13

9:15 am

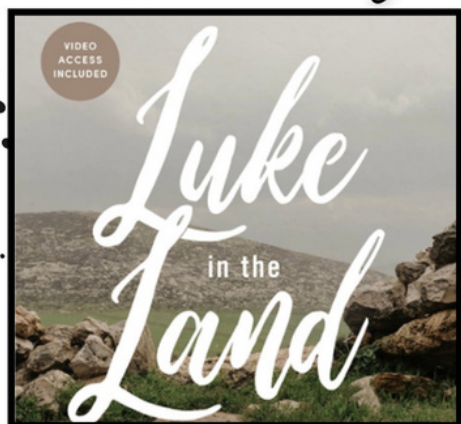
Food & Fellowship
Sunday School Kick-off
(PreK-6th Grade)

10 am Worship



Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sept 20 at 9:15 am.

A New Bible Study Series



Starts September 10th.
2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month
Pick your time: 9:30 am or 5:30 pm.
Fireside Room

To order a copy of the book, talk to
Gail Slinde or leave a message in
the church office. Cost is \$23.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths
Proverbs 3:5-6



I recently learned that the Ferris Wheel made its debut at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago. The wheel stood 264 feet high. There were 36 passenger cars. Each held up to 60 people! Even this big wheel at the North Dakota State Fair would pale in comparison to this monster of a machine. My heart beat rises just thinking about being on this ride.

While I don't particularly love riding on a ferris wheel, I have found that they teach me about trust. Once I'm strapped my spot, I need to trust that the ride will do what it was made to do. I will be held in place, as we go up and down and around again. I may not be in control for a while, and that is okay. When I can trust the ride, my heart beat can settle and I really can enjoy the ride.

Proverbs 3 reminds us to "Trust in the Lord." God knows us. God cares for us. To trust in the Lord is to know that we will be held through the ups and downs and round and round of life. It is to let go of being in control, of relying solely on our own insight. Instead, we turn to God's Word to guide our life and our decisions.

This fall, in our worship services on Saturdays and Sundays, we will turn again to the teachings of Jesus. At the core of God's Word is forgiveness, radical grace, wide welcome, and generosity. To put our trust in the Lord is to live our lives aligned with God's love. God's ways sometimes seem foolish in compared to the ways of this world. Yet, when we follow in God's ways, we find the ride of our lives become filled with more joy and peace and less worry and fear.

Oak Valley Lutheran Church, it is my deepest privilege to be church with you! In the midst of a complicated world, God has set us here to live and to love faith-full-y. Thanks for being YOU. Thanks for your commitment to this church community, as together we seek to trust in the Lord.

With deep gratitude,
Pastor Emmy

PS: A prayer for our church community this fall:

Gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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Oak Valley Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes Meeting

August 6, 2026

The Oak Valley Church Council met on August 6, 2026. Members present were Pastor Emmy Swedlund, Carmen Redding, Carlotta Olson, Matt Benson, Jim Everson, Clay Rohrbeck, Tore Knudson, Kerry Clark and Bonnie Petersen.

Members absent, Justin Pfeilschifter, Pam Podoll.

GUEST IN ATTENDANCE: Mason Pedersen

President Bonnie Pedersen called the meeting to order.

DEVOTIONS: Bonnie gave devotions and opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Carmen made a motion to accept the agenda with the addition of sidewalk discussion under property. Kerry seconded. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of May meeting were previously approved. No meetings in June or July.

TREASURER'S REPORT: We have a negative balance for July of approximately \$2,000. General offering is up. Extra expenses this month were for the parsonage dishwasher and extra directories. There were private donations made to cover the cost of the parsonage dishwasher. Tracy is applying for some funds from the Velva Fire Department Gaming for the sidewalk that has been completed. The request will be reviewed at the next monthly board meeting of the Fire Department Gaming. Any funds received will be deposited into the building fund. Year-to-date we have a positive net revenue of approx. \$23,800. Matt made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Carlotta seconded. Motion carried.

PASTORS REPORT – July, 2026:

A good week last week with Vacation Bible School.

Pastor Emmy will be spending next week at Camp Metigoshe as Pastor of the Week.

Synod News – Our newly elected Bishop, Lisa Lewton, started her position on August 1st.

OAK VALLEY WOMEN – More decorating has been done in the kitchen.

WORSHIP/EVANGELISM – Worship for August will explore some of the Earth's resources that are in scripture. Last week's topic was grounded in creation and the earth's soil.

Summer Wednesday night worship service will be re-evaluated for next summer.

Angela Yellowhammer has expressed an interest in being part of the lay ministry at Oak Valley and held her first service last Wednesday.

EDUCATION/YOUTH –

Rally Sunday will be September 13th.

Parent meeting for confirmation kids is on September 2nd. Tracy and Pastor Emmy have been discussing the 2027 Youth Gathering in Minneapolis for Oak Valley youth.

There will also be bell practice held on Rally Sunday.

Bonnie is looking for additional Sunday School teachers. Opportunities for adults to serve as chaperones at Metigoshe Ministries Friday Night Live events.

Bonnie would like to have more parents involved as chaperones at Metigoshe Ministries Friday Night Live events.

STEWARDSHIP – General Offering for July was \$17,382. Synod will receive \$1,338 and the Velva Area History Museum will receive \$261. Motion by Kerry, second by Matt to approve the benevolence distributions.

PERSONNEL – Discussion was held regarding church staffing. Kaia has informed us that she needs to step away from the part-time office position. Pastor Emmy, Matt and Tore will bring details to the next council meeting.

PROPERTY–

Gutters – Northern Sky Roofing estimates cost for the gutters on the North side of the church at approximately \$3,200. The gutters would have 3 downspouts. We may have to find a lift that they could use. ABC Seamless out of Bismarck did respond with an estimate of \$13,000.

Parsonage Furnace – Absolute Comfort seems to be the only company able/willing to put the line item in our Ministry Guidelines Budget, which was approved at the annual meeting. Motion by Matt, second by Clay to have Tore contact Northern Sky Roofing to put the north side gutter installation project on Northern Skys to-do-list.

The Furnace Project requires approval by the congregation, since it exceeds \$2,500 and is not in our Ministry Guidelines Budget.

A special meeting has to be announced at church on two consecutive Sundays and advertised by mail or electronic means. We need 31 people in attendance to conduct business at the meeting. Motion by Tore, second by Carmen to hold a special meeting on August 23rd to inform the congregation of gutters and to request approval of spending for the parsonage furnace.

Request made of Tore to get the same color gutters as are on the South side. Tore also to look at the sidewalk cracks in the concrete poured earlier this summer.

FOOD PANTRY–

For the month of July - 39 units received food.

There will be a city-wide food drive on October 7th.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Make a plan for counting/deposit of offering – will be discussed with Matt, Tore, Pastor Emmy and report back next month.

Office Space Use Agreement – Motion by Carlotta, second by Jim to sign Office Space Use Agreement between Oak Valley Lutheran Church and Searle Swedlund. Motion passed.

Museum Request – Art –Picture painted by Marie Gjellstad Hauge previously hung in the sanctuary. The Velva museum would like to display the painting along with other information on the artist.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting Monday, September 14 at 7:00 pm

Devotions – Carmen

HAPPY
Anniversary!

1- Curt & Karen Kittelson
6- Paula & Todd Martinson
10- Kyle & Ashley Beeter
16- Cara & Taylor Bauer
17- Jamie & Amy Guttormson
119- Ron & Maria Norbury
23- Bill & Cindy Bechtold
24- Megan & Shawn Buchmeier
25- Kara & Galen Thomas
26- Breanne & Jake Burns
29- John & Jodi Grunseth
30- Cheyl & Ossie Vinesett

Prayer Group

If you are interested in joining in the Prayer Group Ministry of Oak Valley Lutheran Church, please leave your Cell Phone Number with the Church Office. Either call or drop off a note! We'll get you added to the Text Message Group.

Happy Birthday

1 Linda Beall
Collette Canevelo
Mark Knorr
2 Jay Clark
Alice Selberg
Damien Sola
4 Justin Helseth
Remington Schmidt
5 David Kramer
9 Tracy Krueger
12- Karley Colby
12- Leonard Pedersen
13 Karli Weidler
16 Anna Hansen

17 Beckett Krueger
Shawn Vedaa
18 Julie Anderson
Janet Hazel
Danya Krumwiede
Todd Martinson
Jenn Weigel
19 Carsten Espeseth
Rylee Fransten
Jaxson Sola
20 John Kerr
21 Cindy Bechtold
Beckham Duchsherer

22 Adalyn Buchmeier
Karen Leier
Kara Thomas
12 Janelle Wunderlich
26 Dakotah Aaseth
Carson Hildre
Jersey Selzler
27 Hailee Cree
Alyson Heisler
Hudson Weidler
Kolter Weidler
29 Joe Zietz

Oak Valley LYO-Info Meeting
9-12th Grade Student & Parent
Sunday, September 13
6:00 Meal & Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Financial Report for June 2026

Financial Report for June 2026						
REVENUES				CHECKING BAL ON 06/30/2026:		
	JUN	MAY	YTD			
Ch Dir & Usg/ Meals/Thrivent/ Round Up/ Gaming		\$310.00	\$1,674.00	OVLC Checking		\$79,641.58
Confirmation				General Fund	\$32,193.54	
Copyright Licensing				Kitchen Fund	\$4,622.65	
Equipment				Lent Offering Fund	\$0.00	
Flowers/Decorating	\$20.00		\$539.00	LYO	\$34,707.10	
General Offering	\$17,162.00	\$15,795.25	\$107,940.50	Men's	\$2,600.22	
Int/Divs/Mineral Rights	\$357.77	\$7.51	\$1,060.69	Sunday School	\$4,611.70	
LYO	\$1,313.50	\$62.00	\$1,945.35	VARIOUS CD'S		\$46,677.42
Men's Group				SAVINGS BAL ON 06/30/2026:		
Other Ministry Donations	\$2,005.00	\$1,493.00	\$41,077.50	OVLC Savings		\$82,029.67
Kitchen Fundraising				Archives & History	\$339.53	
Sunday School	\$80.52	\$379.76	\$586.14	Building	\$26,582.32	
Thompson Claim			\$21,547.16	Cemetery	\$1,423.39	
Vacation Bible School				Growth	\$13,640.37	
TOTAL REVENUES	\$20,938.79	\$18,047.52	\$176,370.34	Memorials Gen	\$30,754.63	
				Music Ministry	\$5,215.23	
EXPENSES:				Ness Gifts Fund	\$112.54	
LEARNING Ministry	\$65.49	\$129.43	\$735.08	VBS Donations	\$3,961.66	
SERVING Ministry	\$1,903.00	\$3,387.60	\$20,968.20			
\$1,216.00 Benevolence to WND Synod						
\$237.00 Cook Off For Charity						
WORSHIPING Ministry	\$279.27	\$56.66	\$3,369.63			
SUPPORTING-Property	\$5,395.96	\$13,647.17	\$37,790.10			
SUPPORTING-Personnel	\$12,363.77	\$18,465.14	\$86,930.65			
WELCOMING Ministry	\$5.35	\$0.00	\$606.03			
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$20,012.84	\$35,686.00	\$150,399.69			
Church Expenses: Tricorne Audio (converter) \$279.27 paid from Music Ministry Fund. Parsonage Expenses: Paint \$49.40 and Landscaping Rock \$187.73 paid from General Fund, Water Heater \$904.57 pd from Building Fund.						
Payroll Liabilities-ckg	\$906.37					
Total LIABILITIES	\$906.37					
				Total Net Assets		\$207,442.30
				Total Liabilities + Net Assets		\$208,348.67
Any questions or concerns reach out: Tracy Ulland-Financial Administrator 626-1820 oakvalleyfa@gmail.com or Council Treasurer- Tore Knudsen 701-721-7205 email oakvalleylutherancouncil@gmail.com						

As of 08/31/2026 (includes all monies received in every fund):

Average money needed to meet 2026 guideline proposals per week: \$7,115.98

Average Amount received in 2026 per week: \$7,170.32

Difference per week: +\$54.34



Ways To Give

- QR CODE
- www.oakvalleylutheranchurch.org
- Vanco Mobile App
- Mail 400 Main St N, Velva, ND 58790

Financial Report for July 2026

REVENUES				JUL	JUN	YTD	CHECKING BAL ON 07/31/2026:		
Ch Dir & Usg/ Coffee Monies/Meals/Thrivent/ Round Up/Gaming				\$419.00		\$2,093.00	OVLC Checking		\$77,605.15
Confirmation							General Fund	\$31,915.81	
Copyright Licensing							Kitchen Fund	\$4,230.01	
Equipment							Lent Offering Fund	\$0.00	
Flowers/Decorating			\$20.00		\$539.00		LYO	\$34,757.10	
General Offering	\$17,382.00	\$17,162.00	\$125,322.50				Men's	\$2,600.22	
Int/Divs/Mineral Rights	\$75.64	\$357.77	\$1,136.33				Sunday School	\$3,181.70	
LYO	\$50.00	\$1,313.50	\$1,995.35				VARIOUS CD'S		\$46,677.42
Men's Group							SAVINGS BAL ON 07/31/2026:		
Other Ministry Donations	\$2,575.24	\$2,005.00	\$43,652.74				OVLC Savings		\$81,958.40
Kitchen Fundraising							Archives & History	\$339.53	
Sunday School		\$80.52	\$586.14				Building	\$27,501.68	
Thompson Claim			\$21,547.16				Cemetery	\$1,680.39	
Vacation Bible School	\$110.00		\$110.00				Growth	\$13,278.47	
TOTAL REVENUES	\$20,611.88	\$20,938.79	\$196,982.22				Memorials Gen	\$30,754.63	
							Music Ministry	\$5,220.23	
EXPENSES:							Ness Gifts Fund	\$112.54	
LEARNING Ministry	\$2,713.00	\$65.49	\$3,448.08				VBS Donations	\$3,070.93	
SERVING Ministry	\$2,498.00	\$1,903.00	\$23,466.20						
\$1,321.00 Benevolence to WND Synod									
\$257.00 Oak Valley Cemetery Fund									
WORSHIPING Ministry	\$50.00	\$279.27	\$3,419.63						
SUPPORTING-Property	\$4,453.89	\$5,395.96	\$42,243.99						
SUPPORTING-Personnel	\$12,636.73	\$12,363.77	\$99,567.38						
WELCOMING Ministry	\$381.90	\$5.35	\$987.93						
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$22,733.52	\$20,012.84	\$173,133.21						
Church Expenses: \$1,000 Camp Metigoshe from VBS Fund, \$1,430 ELCA Good Gifts (2 family farms) from Sunday School Fund, \$392.64 kitchen shade from Kitchen Fund, \$381.90 Forever (church directories) from Growth Fund Parsonage Expenses: \$1,365.24 for dishwasher from Building Fund.									
Payroll Liabilities-ckg	\$920.31						Total Net Assets		\$205,320.66
Total LIABILITIES	\$920.31						Total Liabilities + Net Assets		\$206,240.97
Any questions or concerns reach out: Tracy Ulland-Financial Administrator 626-1820 oakvalleyfa@gmail.com or Council Treasurer- Tore Knudsen 701-721-7205 email oakvalleylutherancouncil@gmail.com									

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 9:30 A CIRCLE 7P CONFIRMATION STUDENT + PARENT MTG	3	4 PASTOR EMMY ON VACATION SEPT 4-6 →	5 5:30P WORSHIP
6 10A WORSHIP →	7 9A QUILTING 5:30P PRAYER SHAWLS	8	9 6PM CONFIRMATION	10 BIBLE STUDY 9:30A 5:30P	11	12 5:30P WORSHIP
13 10A WORSHIP RALLY SUNDAY 9:15 Sunday School	14 9A QUILTING	15	16 6PM CONFIRMATION	17	18	19 5:30P WORSHIP
20 10A WORSHIP 9:15 Sunday School	21 9A QUILTING 5:30P PRAYER SHAWLS	22	23 6PM CONFIRMATION	24 BIBLE STUDY 9:30A 5:30P	25	26 5:30P WORSHIP
27 10A WORSHIP 9:15 Sunday School	28 9A QUILTING	29	30 6PM CONFIRMATION			



OAK VALLEY CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

A Ministry Geared for Grades 7 & 8

Sept 2 7:00 pm Meeting for
Students & Grown-ups

Regluar Class Nights 6-7:30 pm

Sept 9 Welcome Night

Sept 16 What is Worship?

Sept 23 Elements of Worship

Sept 30 The Church Year

Sweet Deal for C.A.R.



Thanks for donating!

Together we raised over
\$330 towards a computer
labs in a New High School
in Central African Repbulic.

Fun & Faith

Parent/Adult volunteers will be needed to make these happen. If you are interested, talk to Pastor Emmy and we'll make a plan!

Friday Night Live at Camp Metigoshe

Junior High: Oct 2-3

Gr 4-6: Oct 9-10

A little bit of camp during the school year!

LYO 2026 at The Baymont in Mandan

Junior High: Oct 16-17

Senior High: Oct 18-19

"Building Your Faith" - 1 Corinthians 3:11



Community Food Drive Coming...October 7

Youth will be coming around town to collect donations for the Velva Community Food Pantry.

Oak Valley Lutheran Church
400 Main St N, Velva, ND 58790
Phone: 701-338-2143
Email: Oakbranches@srt.com

Pastor Emmy Swedlund
Phone: 701-552-2419

Website: www.oakvalleylutheranchurch.org

Oak Valley Staff
Tracy Ulland- Financial Administrator: 626-1820
Amy Heisler- Custodian

Oak Valley Congregational Council Members

Bonnie Pedersen- President, Class '27
Carmen Redding-Vice President, Class '29
Pam Podoll, Secretary, Class '28
Tore Knudsen, Treasurer, Class '28
Kerry Clark, Class '29
Jim Everson, Class '27
Clay Rohrbeck, Class '27
Carlotta Olson Class '28
Justin Pfeilschiefter Class '29
Matthew Benson Class '29

Oak Valley Committees

Stewardship & Evangelism Council Liaison - Kerry Clark, Pam Podoll
Property & Building Committee -Sanford Slinde, Clay Rohrbeck, Tore Knudsen, John Ulland
Food Pantry Council Liaison - Kerry Clark
Personnel Committee Chair and Liaison - Matt Benson
Worship & Music Council Liaison - Carmen Redding
Altar Guild Chair - Jackie Schmaltz
Youth & Family/Christian Education Council Liaison - Bonnie Pedersen, Pam Podoll
Archives & History - Denise Krumwiede, Tracy Ulland
Oak Valley Woman - Norma Rist, Gail Slinde