

Our Saviour's & Balsamlund Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News



For December 7, 2025

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 12/7/25—12/13/25

SUNDAY 1 John 4-5
MONDAY Deuteronomy 23-25
TUESDAY Nehemiah 5-9
WEDNESDAY Psalm 140-142
THURSDAY Song 1-2
FRIDAY Revelation 1-6
SATURDAY Acts 21-22



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OSLC WEEKLY CALENDAR

12/7 Second Sunday of Advent

9am Fellowship
9:15am Adult Choir practice
9am Sunday School
10am Worship / Holy Communion

12/10 Wednesday

9am Quilters
1-5pm Janet Eckman SAM in-office
5pm Finance Committee Meeting
6pm Property Committee Meeting

12/14 Third Sunday of Advent

9am Fellowship
9:15am Adult Choir practice
9am Sunday School
10am Sunday School Christmas Program / Second Offering for Sebeka Area Food Shelf.
11am POTLUCK following the Christmas program

Advent

BALSAMLUND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

If you know of someone who would like a visitation, please let the office or Janet Eckman SAM know and we will accommodate the request in the best possible way.

Dec 21 Balsamlund Children's Christmas Program with a brunch to follow.

Dec 24 Christmas Eve Worship Service @ 6:00pm.

Dec 28 There will be no Church Service while Janet is on vacation.

OSLC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Fellowship Hall Reservations: Every first Sunday of the month is reserved for the 4H at 4pm; Dec 9 @ 10am-4pm for Homemaker's Club; December 13, an event from 2pm-4pm for Hilda Mary School.

Youth group Fundraiser Poinsettia Program is in full swing. Get your orders in ASAP with latest deadline of Dec 14th to assure you get the color you want. You will be able to take your plants home after the Christmas Eve Worship service on December 24th.

Wadena County Operation Christmas Child Program 2025 is in progress and all names were fulfilled. THANK YOU everybody! Reminder to get your gifts in by Dec 7th.

December 14 Sunday School Christmas Program during 10:00 AM Worship Service.

1. The December Second Collection will be taken this morning with the proceeds going to the Sebeka Area Food Shelf.
2. Bring a dish or two to share and join us for Potluck and fellowship following the service.

Dec 24 OSLC "Candle Light" Christmas Eve Worship Service @ 4:00pm.

January 18, 2026 Come and celebrate Janet Eckman, as she begins her 4th year as our Synod Authorized Minister! Let's show our appreciation by joining for a Potluck Meal with cake following the 10:00 AM Worship Service. Bring a dish or two to share at the potluck and a card of thanks for Janet. The Church Council will have cake for all.

Advent Week 1 began on Sunday November 30th with lighting of the Candle of Hope.

Advent Week 2 will start on Sunday December 7th with the lighting of Candle of Peace.

Matthew 2:1-2 – *"We observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage."*

The Wise Men began their journey with only a star and a promise. They did not know how long the road would be, what dangers they might meet, or where exactly it would end. Yet they stepped out in hope.

Their first step was an act of trust in God's guiding light.

As I walked into Balsamlund Church on Sunday, November 30th, the beauty of the Christmas decorations surrounded me. The lights at the front of the church had not yet been turned on, and the gentle darkness made the greens and reds even more peaceful. It was a quiet reminder of the Advent season—a time of waiting, watching, and preparing for Jesus to be born in the manger.

A heartfelt thank-you to Deb, Lee, Ashley, Amelia, Noah, and Judy for their thoughtful and beautiful decorating.

Later, as I walked into Our Saviour's, I heard the beautiful voices of the adult choir practicing and the Sunday School children preparing for their Christmas program. They, too, are on a journey—learning songs, practicing lines, and discovering again the story of Jesus' birth. Their excitement is a small echo of the Wise Men's anticipation as they followed the star.

Upcoming Children's Christmas Programs

° OSLC Sunday School Program - *December 14th at 10:00 AM*, with a potluck to follow.

° Balsamlund Children's Program - *December 21st at 8:30 AM*, with a brunch to follow.

As we move through this first week of Advent, let's pause and listen for where God may be nudging each of us to take a hopeful step—even if we don't yet see the whole path ahead.

Prayer

Guiding God, shine Your star of hope upon our path. Give us courage to step forward in faith. Amen.

In Faith,
Janet Eckman, SAM