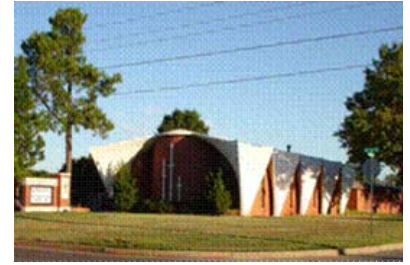


Our Church

Lutheran Church of Our Savior (LCOS) is a small suburban community west of Oklahoma City on NW 23rd Street. Even though the demographics have changed considerably since its founding in 1962, the mission has not. LCOS has a serving heart and believes it is a privilege to be used by God to GO and live our faith in Christ so that others, especially the uncommitted, will be saved and live eternally in heaven.



Our Plan

In a Bible Study at LCOS, the scripture and commentary expressed how God trusts us to take care of all that He created. Through this study, it was expressed how much God TRUSTS. It explained how God made us TRUSTEES, giving us the authority and the ability to use (*not abuse*), to share (*not hoard*), and to be thankful for our many blessings. What an honor and privilege it is to be trusted by God.



What does being a trustee of God have to do with *Ablaze!* and *Fan into Flame*? Everything! God trusts that we will GO and MAKE disciples, baptizing, teaching, and obeying what He has commanded. As LCOS was considering its participation in the *Ablaze!* movement, there were some questions as to whether it was the right time, but we went forward with what we believed were God's plans for us.

We began the *Ablaze!* movement with 50 Days *Ablaze!*, reading devotions, studying God's Word, worshipping and celebrating the truth that God trusts us and wants us involved in the mission of populating heaven by robbing hell of future inhabitants. After 50 Days *Ablaze!*, we formed a *Fan into Flame* committee, discussed options, and began informing and encouraging others to get involved. As with the *Ablaze!* movement, there were a few skeptics. Even though God gives us all that we have and hold, even though God trusts us and makes us trustees, we sometimes have management issues.

Our Results to Date

In the *Ablaze!* information given to churches it says, "Do what you can do." God trusts us to take care of His creation and creatures. God wants us to do what we can do in spreading the Good News about Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins, and eternal life. We at LCOS are committed to *Ablaze!* and have pledged \$62,000 to *Fan into Flame*.

Our Outreach Efforts

The 15% that returns to LCOS is going to support a mission in Haiti that provides for an orphanage, a church, a medical facility, and a school. There are other local mission projects that our Evangelism Board is discussing which have the intent to reach out to the uncommitted. We pray that God will use us as He graciously supports the Haiti mission, as we fill back packs at a public school in the community, as we partner with a Hispanic Church in our circuit, and as we provide Outreach Dinners/Festivals for people that surround our church. Whatever we do, God is among us, encouraging us, helping us to do the best we can do.



Lutheran Church of Our Savior

6501 NW 23rd Street Bethany, Oklahoma 73008 (405) 495-1605
Pastor Dwayne Schroeder (405) 603-4471



Dear Members of Christ,

Through the prophet Jeremiah, God told His people while they were exiled in Babylon that He had plans for them. “Plans to prosper them and not to harm them, plans to give them hope and a future.” (Jer 29:11) God was going to bring His people home to Jerusalem.

God has plans for us and that’s why I want to encourage you to take part in the *Ablaze!* movement. When I heard about *Ablaze!* at the 2004 synodical convention, I thought, “what an impossible task, but what a task to evangelize the world.” As I thought about LCOS’s needs, I prayed for the Lord to show me something that would unite us so that we would walk and work together and be about the same mission, especially the mission that God has called us to do. I believed that our focus on this Godly mission would remove all and any personal agendas someone might have and with your previous love to help others in the community and abroad, I just knew that God was igniting and would continue to ignite our hearts to live our faith as we show and tell others that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior.

The committee that was organized to consider and set our *Ablaze!* and *Fan into Flame* goals didn’t just look at our earthly resources (*members, budget, income, expenses, etc.*). We wanted to do what God wanted us to do. So in order to start some discussion, we threw out a few numbers and asked, “Does God want us to give \$50,000, \$75,000, or \$100,000 to *Ablaze!*” Yes, there were some thoughts that those were some pretty lofty numbers, and some even wondered how we were going to receive congregational support for that amount of money when we were experiencing a deficit in our general fund. Yes, some thought that “if we can’t support the church we are members of, is it right to support something else.”

During one of our meetings, a beloved member addressed the group saying, “I too had some doubts about what I was going to do and what I was going to say to encourage the congregation to support *Ablaze!*” He said, “I admit. I didn’t know if we should be doing this kind of thing, but then on my way to this committee meeting, something came over me that caused me to say, You’re not doing *Ablaze!* God is. God has called us to be disciples and to do what we can for *Ablaze!*”

I personally solicit your personal and congregation support for *Fan into Flame*. Together we can accomplish marvelous things for the sake of Christ and His Church.

Ablaze! for Christ,
Pastor Dwayne Schroeder
Lutheran Church of Our Savior