

Osakis Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 427

Osakis, MN 56360

~~Myron and Lucille Barber~~

~~480 W. Main St. Apt #A5~~

~~Osakis,, MN 56360~~

Osakis Lutheran Church

2021 Church Council

President—Melanie Stier

Past President— Jessie Thornbloom

Secretary—Jacki Harth

Treasurer—Nancy Exley

Financial Secretary—Cindy Christensen

Deacons— Wilma Triebenbach

Education—Kristen Will

Trustees— Lil Ortendahl

Youth— Lacey Sadlemyer

Stewardship—Mike Curtis

Ex Officio—Pastor Richard Fitzer

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
9 a.m.—2 p.m.

The deadline for the bulletin is
Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Church phone number 859-2350

To contact Pastor Rich:

Pastor Rich will typically be
working Monday—Thursday
with Friday as his day off.

His phone number is 859-3816.

B. Pastor's Report:

- Funerals: Herb Fornash, Cal Stueve
- Midweek videos are "Final Words" with worship theme of "For the Healing of the Nations"
- Galeon: still working on details of when and where to re-start worship.
- Pastor is hosting the Alexandria Conference Pastors on March 4 @ 1pm

C. Committees:

Trustees: equipment for the automatic door has arrived and will be installed.

This was previously paid for.

Stewardship: will meet regarding financial contingency plan

Church in Society: Pastor will contact people who may be interested in serving on this committee.

Education: nothing new since last meeting

Worship: Will meet soon as in-person worship continues to increase in numbers. On-line technology has made improvements with notable difference in angle shots. Rick H. asked when we can begin singing again. The new guidelines for Faith Communities will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Offer Our Prayers with the Lord's Prayer

Meeting was adjourned with the next meeting on Tuesday, April 6th at 6:30 p.m.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Jacki Harth, Council Secretary



Thank You!

Thank you to
all of you who have been
bringing in the beautiful
Lillies and plants for
Easter Sunday Service!

Osakis Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes, Monday, March 1st @ 6:30 pm

Present: Pastor Rich, Melanie Stier, Kristen Will, Jessie Thornbloom, Jacki Harth, Nancy Exley, Rick Hansen, Mary Redetzke

President Melanie Stier called the meeting to order.

- A. Pastor Rich: devotions and meditation
- B. Sharing joys/concerns, highs/lows

Approval of Agenda

- A. Kristen W. made a motion to approve the agenda, Jessie T. 2nd. Approved.

Old Business

- A. Review of January minutes- one correction: the Mander's memorial information has been submitted, not received. Nancy E. make a motion to accept the minutes, Jacki H. 2nd. Approved.
- B. Unfinished items from previous meeting(s)- Pathfinders: 4 kids for community meal, Pastor Rich will check on uncashed checks, pizza bills to go to Nancy E.

IV. New Business (OLC vision & new mission & ministry work)

- A. Holy Week schedule/Sunrise service: may modify the Easter service times depending on the number of people coming in person.
- B. NEXT MEETING: review guidelines for Faith Communities regarding COVID-19 restrictions to determine if restrictions can be eased.

Reports

- A. Treasurer: Income for February \$7,780, Bills paid in February \$9,508.97. Income to date: \$14,351.00, Bills paid to date \$19,722.80. Discussion of a contingency plan for finances since this year has been quite different due to COVID-19. There has been less expenses (e.g.VBS, Sunday school, utilities) with weekly offerings less as well. Plan: Nancy and Pastor will meet with Mike C./Stewardship, Rick Hansen., Melanie, and Jessie will meet with Nancy after service next Sunday to review the accounts, information will be gathered for a potential loan from the Mission Investment Fund and a motion was made by Kristen W. that due to the current financial situation, expenses other than monthly bills, any non-emergency projects need council pre-approval. The motion was 2nd by Nancy E. and passed.

Clarification on Ivy Nomeland scholarship criteria: any eligible student attending post high school education can apply and the scholarship will be awarded after 1 year of school is finished.

Join Us For Worship

Sunday April 4 'Easter Sunday' Worship Services at 7 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Sunday April 11 Worship Service 10 a.m.

Sunday April 18 Worship Service 10 a.m.

Sunday April 25 Worship Service 10 a.m.

As of now, we will be offering both 'In-Person' and 'Online' services. If you join us 'In-Person' we ask you to again follow the Safe Practice Guidelines. If you wish to join us Online you can find us live on Facebook, or the service can later be viewed on YouTube.

Mission Action

As of Monday April 12th, the Monday Quilters are going to try again! As many as would like to come, please join us from 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

We will ask that everyone continue to wear masks, and follow the social distance guidelines.

We are excited to start the transition back to the norm, so we hope to see you then!

Osakis Lutheran is Faithful & Generous

Thank you! First and most importantly, thank you to all who have continued to give your offerings! Your generosity is inspiring. Keep up the good work! With help from all of us, we will continue to be the church, supporting bible camps, global missions, hunger and more—even if we aren't in the same physical location. Consider which of the following ways are best for you.

Mail a Check: You can mail your offering envelope to: P.O. Box 427, Osakis, 56360

Online Giving: You can make a one-time gift or set up recurring gifts. Go to www.osakislutheranelca.com, click on the "Donate" button, and then provide the information needed.

Prayer: no matter what your situation, please give prayer support to our staff, members, and the mission & ministry of Osakis Lutheran.

Your Stewardship Committee

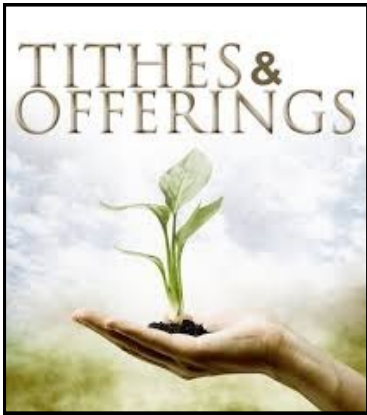
Other News:

2021 Worship

We plan to continue to offer 'In-Person' services while following the CDC Guidelines, as well as continue them 'Online'. Watch for further announcement for any changes.

Call the church office 859-2350 or Pastor Rich 859-3816 if needing pastoral care.

Communion by appointment—contact Pastor Rich.



Offering

February Income	\$7,780.00
February Expenses	\$9,508.97
Income to date	\$14,351.00
Bills paid to date	\$19,722.80

*Stripe Dollars for February \$1,745.00

March 7, 2021

Envelopes	\$3,567.00
Loose	\$10.00
Lent	\$562.00
Families in Need	\$200.00
Stoeckel Campership	\$75.00
<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$4,414.00</u>

March 14, 2021

Envelopes	\$1,947.00
Sunday School	\$2.00
Lent	\$25.00
Church Rental	\$200.00
Natl. Youth Gathering	\$75.00
<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$2,249.00</u>

March 21, 2021

Envelopes	\$1,487.00
Loose	\$20.00
Sunday School	\$6.25
Lent	\$80.00
Tech Fund	\$100.00
Stoeckel Campership	\$1,200.00
<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$5,893.25</u>

Total Offering: \$12,556.25

Prayer Concerns

Shelly Engfer-Triebebach, Grace Johnson, Janice Frank, Sue Hoffarth, Marie Larson, Dave Amdahl, and Samantha Reeves (Call 320-859-2350 for your prayer requests.)

Please call 320-859-2350 for your special prayer requests!

Shut-in and Health Concerns: Doug Sherman

Those Residing in Care Centers and Rehab

Community Memorial Home: Elaine Mattson, Marie Larson, Jeanne Jensen

Terrace Heights: LaRayne Johnson, Ruby Maus, Lorraine (Ivy) Nomeland, Alice Sanders

Westview Assisted Living: Stella Bender, Audrey Collins, Faye Maus, Madlyn Manders, Don Jensen

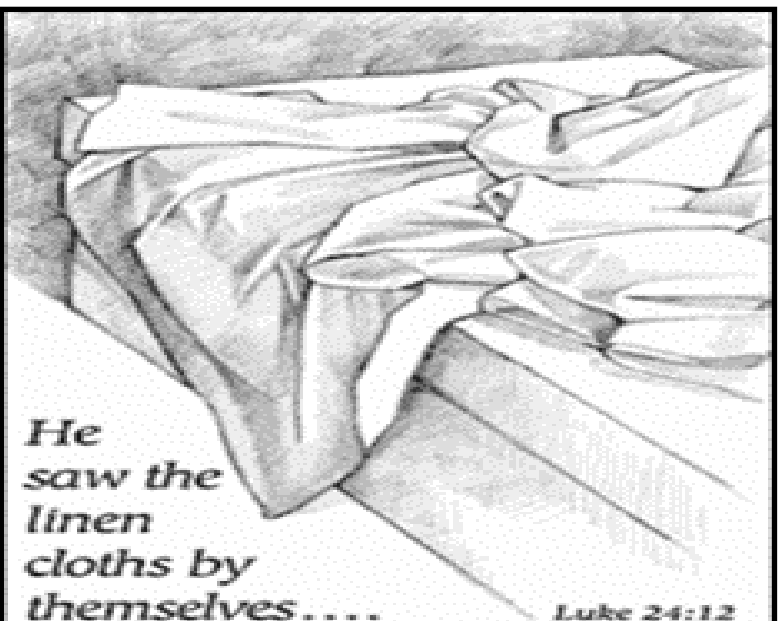
Out of Town

Alexandria—Windmill Ponds: Delores Stephens

Harding, MN: David Jorgensen

Long Prairie: Ruth Sherman

Please remember to include those who are our friends, neighbors, and members of Osakis Lutheran with a prayer, greeting, or a card!



April Birthdays

04/01 Gregory Johnson
04/02 Larry Frisch, Darren Redetzke
04/03 Chloe Bjorstrom
04/04 Logan Grove, Alexis Thornbloom
04/06 Annabelle Redetzke
04/09 Kali Schoeck, Isabelle Szech
04/10 Jon Hinnenkamp, Joy Larson
04/12 Laurie Garcia
04/15 Carol Nack, Amanda Steinbeisser
04/18 Myron Barber, Jason Mounsdon,
Neil Ranum, Abby Will, Morgan Will
04/20 Trenton VanNyhuis
04/21 Kaitlyn Malvin
04/22 Linda Blake
04/24 Michael Curtis, Lawrence Lewin
04/25 Darcy Larson
04/27 Andi Johnson, Beverly Schultz
04/28 Vicky Grove, Morgan Staloch,
Seth Strelow
04/29 Dinara Dykema, Leah Maddock,
Madlyn Manders
04/30 Joe Johnson, Jordan Judd,
Charles Miller, Mary Redetzke,
Judith Thornbloom, Ethan Wiggins



Lutheran laughter – Holy Humor Sunday, April 23

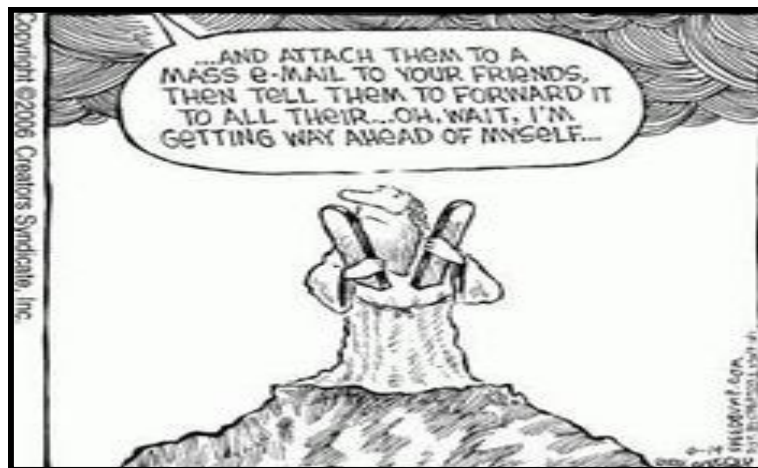
In honor of God's great Easter laugh, come worship with laughter, jokes, silliness and fun on Sunday, April 23, 10 a.m.

Wear your brightest colors, or silliest hat, and bring a good, clean joke to share.

Sonia C. Solomonson, managing editor of *The Lutheran*, wrote a splendid article titled "Two Parts Faith, One Part Humor" in the magazine's April 2014 issue, reporting on how some Lutheran congregations are observing Holy Humor Sunday.

For instance, Pastor Jim Arends of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in La Crescent, MN, said, "This gives us a chance to celebrate the joy of Easter in a fun way a week after we've celebrated it in a glorious way... We don't celebrate this to increase attendance but it has had that effect." The congregation's musical groups contributed especially joyful and fun selections.

She concluded: "so who says we can't laugh and celebrate in our places of worship? We can find a way to mix faith and humor, stir it into our lives, and let it simmer into a rich stew that will feed all those around us."



Rich Reflections

The sun is shining brightly, the air is fresh and warm. My eyes, my skin and my brain are telling me there are reasons to rejoice. Still the joy of spring feels strangely elusive. My heart is telling me of 7 reasons to mourn from a seven day stretch.

March 16 – Atlanta, Georgia

Eight people, including six Asian women, were killed when a White gunman stormed three spas, police said.

March 17 – Stockton, California

Five people who were preparing a vigil were shot in a drive-by shooting, the Sheriff's Department said.

March 18 – Gresham, Oregon

Four victims were taken to the hospital after a shooting in this city east of Portland, police said.

March 20 – Houston, Texas

Five people were shot after a disturbance inside a club, according to police. One was in critical condition, the rest were in stable condition.

March 20 – Dallas, Texas

Eight people were shot by an unknown assailant, one of whom died, according to police.

March 20 – Philadelphia, PA

One person was killed and another five were injured during a shooting at an illegal party, Philadelphia Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw said.

March 22 – Boulder, Colorado

Ten people, including a police officer, were killed in a shooting at a supermarket, according to police.

(source: KMOV 4 TV website, St.Louis, MO)

Seven mass shootings in seven days. You may ask, "What does this have to do with Easter?" A valid question.

Jesus' life, death and resurrection "rescue us from sin, death and the devil" according to Martin Luther's Small Catechism. It's the gift of grace bestowed on us in Holy Baptism.

The Romans wanted Jesus dead, the religious leaders wanted Jesus dead, and all the disciples betrayed, denied or abandoned Jesus. And still, following his resurrection from the dead Jesus came and stood among his followers who were hiding in fear, and said to them "Peace be with you." He said this three times. "Healing, wholeness and well-being I desire for you," is what he was saying. He was also showing us that violence and killing are ultimately futile. Our world is not whole. Our country needs healing. Our souls need a new experience of well-being after a year of pandemic and isolation. But our society, our country has a preoccupation with violence. It's damaging our collective soul.

Jesus' resurrection from the dead, his declaration of peace, and the outpouring of his Holy Spirit on people of all nations, shapes our lives to conform to his pattern of true and abundant living.

The apostle Paul makes great effort in Romans 12 to lay out what life looks like for a follower of Jesus. In verses 14-21 it reads in part:

"Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ... never avenge yourselves, ... No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink' ... Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Centuries earlier than Paul, the prophet Isaiah laid out a vision of life in the age of the Messiah:

"He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more."

Siblings in Christ, we ARE living in the age of the Messiah, the risen and living Lord. May our minds, hearts, words and actions be "infected" with this way of abundant life! Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again!

Alleluia! Christ has risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Easter blessings of joy, peace & new life,
Pr. Rich

Osakis Lutheran Church Action News April 2021

Edition #544
Debbie Bulfer, Editor



Council's Corner: by Melanie Stier

As we approach the Easter season, we find it important to remind ourselves that we are children of God and we are forgiven. Especially with the difficult times of the past year, we are most often our own toughest critics. Not only do we need to accept grace from God, but also learn to give grace to ourselves as well. Whether your Easter celebration will include online gatherings or in person, we know we are each where God has called us to be. If you would like to memorialize or honor a loved one this Easter season, please consider donating an Easter lily for us to display during the Easter season.

With the congregation's health still at the forefront of our decisions, the council will be continuing to make adjustments as needed. We are thankful for the opportunity and resources to be able to worship in person and online. Thank you to Pastor Rich and Pat Ryan for the wonderful new camera setup! Without the help of a grant, we would quite possibly not have been able to purchase this equipment. As with many other congregations and businesses, the financial strain of the pandemic can hit us hard. We thank you all for your continued and future financial and prayer support.

God's Blessings,
Melanie Stier
2021 Council President

Osakis Lutheran Church



Palm Sunday



Maunday Thursday



Good Friday



Easter Sunday

April 1st - Maundy Thursday
- Service will be at 7:00 pm

April 2nd - Good Friday
- Service will be at 7:00 pm

April 4th - Easter Sunday
- Services will be at 7:00 am
and 10:00 am

April 11th - Holy Humor Sunday
- Service will be at 10:00 am



LENT & HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE