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 2023 Church Council

President- Kristen Will

President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

Financial Secretary– Cindy Christensen

Worship-Mary Redetzke

Education-Stephanie Finnegan

Trustees- Lil Ortendahl

Youth- Lacei Sadlemyer

Stewardship-Mike Curtis

#### **Church Office Hours:**

Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Church phone number #859-2350

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

#### To contact Pastor Rich:

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

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

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Present: Pastor Rich, Kristen Will, Jacki Harth, Nancy Exley, Mike Curtis, Mary Redetzke,
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Sharing of joys and concerns
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Nancy made a motion to approve the agenda with additions, Mike 2 <sup>nd</sup>
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Submitted by Jacki Harth, Council Secretary

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Sunday June 11 Worship Service - 10 a.m.
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Registration and Health forms for Vacation Bible School have been mailed. If I missed you, please call the church office and/or there are extra forms in the narthex. Please complete and return to church with your payment.

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A special high five, congratulations and job well done to all our Osakis school students for a great school year.

Through out the school year you showed us your many talents, awards, honors, books read, math masters, science projects, art displays, academic achievements, awesome performances in girls and boys sports, your entertaining plays and musical groups, the many clubs you participated in.

The same high five and congratulations and job well done to the Osakis teachers, counselors, administrative staff and all the great staff, you give our students the direction needed to succeed.

Enjoy your summer!!!

#### **Rich Reflections**

New York Times columnist David Brooks once challenged new college graduates to take a "pass" on the American obsession with self-fulfillment and instead find themselves in service to others by making and keeping what he described as sacred commitments and by rising to the challenges they discover all around and outside of them. "Most successful young people," he writes, "don't look inside and then plan a life. The look outside and find a problem, which summons their life.... Most people don't form a self and then lead a life. They are called by a problem, and the self is constructed gradually by their calling."

We can deduce that the same is true of a community. Our congregations will not discover themselves until they give themselves away. No amount of time spent on developing a mission statement or devising new member campaigns can substitute for looking around one's neighborhood and asking, "Who needs us?" and "What can we do with our resources to bear God's love to this part of the world?"

Paradox: The Holy Spirit doesn't prevent failure but invites it. Or, to put it slightly differently, the Holy Spirit invites us to find fulfillment and victory in and through our setbacks and failures. As inspired as I was by the Mission Control dictum during the crisis of Apollo 13 that "failure is not an option," I think that kind of mindset is paralyzing too many of our congregations. Failure is not only an option, it is inevitable. The problems this world -- and our congregations -face are too great, too complex, and too significant to imagine that we will hit upon the best solution the first time out...or maybe ever.

Once we've identified a worthy challenge, we must experiment...and count of failing, innovate...and count on failing, invent...and count on failing again. An English teacher in my children's middle school once told me, "I tell my kids to make a mistake every day -- just not the same mistake!" Each mistake, each set back, each false start, each failure is not to be lamented by learned from. Further—living in a success-obsessed world can lead us to forget this—and ultimately, it's neither about us, nor up to us. God is the creator, sustainer, and redeemer of this cosmos, and only God can bring the kind of redemption we long for and need. Our job is to partner with God's work wherever we can discern it. If the cross teaches us nothing else, it teaches that success will not always look like success, and victory may often come disguised as defeat. The question isn't whether we're successful, but whether we're faithful. Or, as [American philosopher] Cornel West once said, "Sure it's a failure, but was it a good failure."

This perspective gives us a measure of freedom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to place ourselves on the side of those who are most vulnerable, and to take great risks and dare great ventures. Why? Because we trust that whatever the immediate results of our efforts, both our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's good promise. Resurrection, we need to remember, only and always follows crucifixion.

So we'll need to try some different things, all the time, before we find things that work best for our setting.

Pr. Rich

#### Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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Osakis Lutheran is part of the Jeremiah 29 Project. It connects congregations with their communities in ways to promote community and congregational sustainability. Leaders participate with other leaders from across our NW Minn Synod, each engaged in their own community projects. We're part of the first 10 congregations to do this.

When we think about Jeremiah 29, we often think about Jeremiah 29:11 *"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm; to give you a future and a hope."* These words were for a community captured and taken from their birthplace. People were anxious to get back to their homeland.

Jeremiah was speaking the truth they needed to hear; they would have to say until generations had passed, and the people had changed their ways. Yet, Jeremiah's message was not despair, but one of hope. Not just hope for the future, but hope for right now.

In a less familiar verse, Jeremiah writes, "Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray. For in its welfare you will find your welfare." Invest in where you are now. Have children. Plant crops. Build a home. Jeremiah says, "pray for their land." This is a radical message, because who would want to pray for their captors? This is a way of saying, "Love your enemies."

Jeremiah reminds us that church is not private, it is not apart from the world, but in the world. We are called to journey from the center of power to the fringes of society to experience God in new ways. Where you support community vitality, you create space for congregational vitality.

# Pathfinder Students!!!

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# Dan Bruder 18560 Elk Loop

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*Edition #570* 

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# Mary Curtis 10749 Tyler Court NE

Blaine, MN 55434

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President Elect -

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Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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> Daniel and Jane Field 14644 115th Avenue

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Osakis Lutheran Church P.O. Box 427 Osakis, MN 56360

> Daniel and Stephanie Finnegan 110 E. Pike Street

> > Osakis, MN 56360

### Osakis Lutheran Church 2023 Church Council

President- Kristen Will

President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

Financial Secretary– Cindy Christensen

Worship-Mary Redetzke

Education-Stephanie Finnegan

Trustees- Lil Ortendahl

Youth- Lacei Sadlemyer

Stewardship-Mike Curtis

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Church phone number #859-2350

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Through out the school year you showed us your many talents, awards, honors, books read, math masters, science projects, art displays, academic achievements, awesome performances in girls and boys sports, your entertaining plays and musical groups, the many clubs you participated in.

The same high five and congratulations and job well done to the Osakis teachers, counselors, administrative staff and all the great staff, you give our students the direction needed to succeed.

Enjoy your summer!!!

## **Rich Reflections**

New York Times columnist David Brooks once challenged new college graduates to take a "pass" on the American obsession with self-fulfillment and instead find themselves in service to others by making and keeping what he described as sacred commitments and by rising to the challenges they discover all around and outside of them. "Most successful young people," he writes, "don't look inside and then plan a life. The look outside and find a problem, which summons their life.... Most people don't form a self and then lead a life. They are called by a problem, and the self is constructed gradually by their calling."

We can deduce that the same is true of a community. Our congregations will not discover themselves until they give themselves away. No amount of time spent on developing a mission statement or devising new member campaigns can substitute for looking around one's neighborhood and asking, "Who needs us?" and "What can we do with our resources to bear God's love to this part of the world?"

Paradox: The Holy Spirit doesn't prevent failure but invites it. Or, to put it slightly differently, the Holy Spirit invites us to find fulfillment and victory in and through our setbacks and failures. As inspired as I was by the Mission Control dictum during the crisis of Apollo 13 that "failure is not an option," I think that kind of mindset is paralyzing too many of our congregations. Failure is not only an option, it is inevitable. The problems this world -- and our congregations -face are too great, too complex, and too significant to imagine that we will hit upon the best solution the first time out...or maybe ever.

Once we've identified a worthy challenge, we must experiment...and count of failing, innovate...and count on failing, invent...and count on failing again. An English teacher in my children's middle school once told me, "I tell my kids to make a mistake every day -- just not the same mistake!" Each mistake, each set back, each false start, each failure is not to be lamented by learned from. Further—living in a success-obsessed world can lead us to forget this—and ultimately, it's neither about us, nor up to us. God is the creator, sustainer, and redeemer of this cosmos, and only God can bring the kind of redemption we long for and need. Our job is to partner with God's work wherever we can discern it. If the cross teaches us nothing else, it teaches that success will not always look like success, and victory may often come disguised as defeat. The question isn't whether we're successful, but whether we're faithful. Or, as [American philosopher] Cornel West once said, "Sure it's a failure, but was it a good failure."

This perspective gives us a measure of freedom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to place ourselves on the side of those who are most vulnerable, and to take great risks and dare great ventures. Why? Because we trust that whatever the immediate results of our efforts, both our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's good promise. Resurrection, we need to remember, only and always follows crucifixion.

So we'll need to try some different things, all the time, before we find things that work best for our setting.

Pr. Rich

## Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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When we think about Jeremiah 29, we often think about Jeremiah 29:11 *"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm; to give you a future and a hope."* These words were for a community captured and taken from their birthplace. People were anxious to get back to their homeland.

Jeremiah was speaking the truth they needed to hear; they would have to say until generations had passed, and the people had changed their ways. Yet, Jeremiah's message was not despair, but one of hope. Not just hope for the future, but hope for right now.

In a less familiar verse, Jeremiah writes, "Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray. For in its welfare you will find your welfare." Invest in where you are now. Have children. Plant crops. Build a home. Jeremiah says, "pray for their land." This is a radical message, because who would want to pray for their captors? This is a way of saying, "Love your enemies."

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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> Michael and Ella Gilbert 10702 120th Avenue

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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> Mr. Alan Hjulberg 604 Oak Street West

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President Elect -

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Enjoy your summer!!!

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#### Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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> Donald Jensen 410 W. Main Street CMH Osakis, MN 56360

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*Edition #570* 

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> Deb Jibben 21 W. Oak Street

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Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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## Osakis Lutheran Church

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This perspective gives us a measure of freedom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to place ourselves on the side of those who are most vulnerable, and to take great risks and dare great ventures. Why? Because we trust that whatever the immediate results of our efforts, both our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's good promise. Resurrection, we need to remember, only and always follows crucifixion.

So we'll need to try some different things, all the time, before we find things that work best for our setting.

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## Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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Osakis Lutheran Church P.O. Box 427 Osakis, MN 56360

> Letty Jost Heritage Apartments 512 2nd Avenue E. Osakis, MN 56360

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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Secretary-

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Enjoy your summer!!!

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### Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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Osakis Lutheran Church P.O. Box 427 Osakis, MN 56360

> Sharon Kummrow 15530 Hwy 27 West

Kensington, MN 56343

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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*Edition #570* 

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> Alan and Darcy Larson 115 E. Oak Street

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*Edition #570* 

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Ryan and Joy Larson 507 7th Avenue W.

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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> David and Shari Laven 502 Nestor Street

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Osakis Lutheran Church P.O. Box 427 Osakis, MN 56360

> Arlene Ludwig 501 Hunter Lane

Garfield, MN 56332

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

Financial Secretary– Cindy Christensen

Worship-Mary Redetzke

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Youth- Lacei Sadlemyer

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Enjoy your summer!!!

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New York Times columnist David Brooks once challenged new college graduates to take a "pass" on the American obsession with self-fulfillment and instead find themselves in service to others by making and keeping what he described as sacred commitments and by rising to the challenges they discover all around and outside of them. "Most successful young people," he writes, "don't look inside and then plan a life. The look outside and find a problem, which summons their life.... Most people don't form a self and then lead a life. They are called by a problem, and the self is constructed gradually by their calling."

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This perspective gives us a measure of freedom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to place ourselves on the side of those who are most vulnerable, and to take great risks and dare great ventures. Why? Because we trust that whatever the immediate results of our efforts, both our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's good promise. Resurrection, we need to remember, only and always follows crucifixion.

So we'll need to try some different things, all the time, before we find things that work best for our setting.

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#### Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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# Linda Manders 1109 Birch Avenue

Alexandria, MN 56308

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer— Nancy Exley

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> Carol Marthaler 1415 Lake Street Apt. #121 Alexandria, MN 56308

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Osakis Lutheran Church P.O. Box 427 Osakis, MN 56360

Osakis Lutheran Church

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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Worship-Mary Redetzke

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Youth- Lacei Sadlemyer

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Enjoy your summer!!!

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This perspective gives us a measure of freedom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to place ourselves on the side of those who are most vulnerable, and to take great risks and dare great ventures. Why? Because we trust that whatever the immediate results of our efforts, both our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's good promise. Resurrection, we need to remember, only and always follows crucifixion.

So we'll need to try some different things, all the time, before we find things that work best for our setting.

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## Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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# Robert Schultz P.O. Box 15

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*Edition #570* 

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> Jason and Lisa Steinert 15316 County Rd. 93

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*Edition #570* 

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> Rita Matheny 11849 Eagle View Drive

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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*Edition #570* 

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> Faye Maus 240 6th Avenue N. Westview Assisted Living Osakis, MN 56360

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

Financial Secretary– Cindy Christensen

Worship-Mary Redetzke

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Enjoy your summer!!!

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New York Times columnist David Brooks once challenged new college graduates to take a "pass" on the American obsession with self-fulfillment and instead find themselves in service to others by making and keeping what he described as sacred commitments and by rising to the challenges they discover all around and outside of them. "Most successful young people," he writes, "don't look inside and then plan a life. The look outside and find a problem, which summons their life.... Most people don't form a self and then lead a life. They are called by a problem, and the self is constructed gradually by their calling."

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Once we've identified a worthy challenge, we must experiment...and count of failing, innovate...and count on failing, invent...and count on failing again. An English teacher in my children's middle school once told me, "I tell my kids to make a mistake every day -- just not the same mistake!" Each mistake, each set back, each false start, each failure is not to be lamented by learned from. Further—living in a success-obsessed world can lead us to forget this—and ultimately, it's neither about us, nor up to us. God is the creator, sustainer, and redeemer of this cosmos, and only God can bring the kind of redemption we long for and need. Our job is to partner with God's work wherever we can discern it. If the cross teaches us nothing else, it teaches that success will not always look like success, and victory may often come disguised as defeat. The question isn't whether we're successful, but whether we're faithful. Or, as [American philosopher] Cornel West once said, "Sure it's a failure, but was it a good failure."

This perspective gives us a measure of freedom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to place ourselves on the side of those who are most vulnerable, and to take great risks and dare great ventures. Why? Because we trust that whatever the immediate results of our efforts, both our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's good promise. Resurrection, we need to remember, only and always follows crucifixion.

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#### Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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Osakis Lutheran Church P.O. Box 427 Osakis, MN 56360

> Dorene Mielke 11450 County Road 10

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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*Edition #570* 

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> Donald and Carol Nack 1324 Maple Drive SE

> Alexandria, MN 56308

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*Edition #570* 

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Through out the school year you showed us your many talents, awards, honors, books read, math masters, science projects, art displays, academic achievements, awesome performances in girls and boys sports, your entertaining plays and musical groups, the many clubs you participated in.

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Enjoy your summer!!!

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Enjoy your summer!!!

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This perspective gives us a measure of freedom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to place ourselves on the side of those who are most vulnerable, and to take great risks and dare great ventures. Why? Because we trust that whatever the immediate results of our efforts, both our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's good promise. Resurrection, we need to remember, only and always follows crucifixion.

So we'll need to try some different things, all the time, before we find things that work best for our setting.

Pr. Rich

### Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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> David Pease 505 E. Main Street

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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*Edition #570* 

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## Don and LaVonne Peterson P.O. Box 72

Nelson, MN 56355

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Enjoy your summer!!!

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So we'll need to try some different things, all the time, before we find things that work best for our setting.

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### Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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Osakis Lutheran Church P.O. Box 427 Osakis, MN 56360

> Karol Schlosser 26781 113th Avenue

Carlos, MN 56319

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

Financial Secretary– Cindy Christensen

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*Edition #570* 

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> Timothy and Julie Schoeck 17497 141st Avenue

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*Edition #570* 

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> Jason and Amanda Schueler 14966 210th Street

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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> Beverly Schultz 320 Irving Street Unit #3 Alexandria, MN 56308

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> Suzzette Sibell 106 Lavens Lakeview Drive

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

Financial Secretary– Cindy Christensen

Worship-Mary Redetzke

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Enjoy your summer!!!

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#### Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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> John Swenstad 601 E. Main Street

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President Elect -

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Enjoy your summer!!!

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New York Times columnist David Brooks once challenged new college graduates to take a "pass" on the American obsession with self-fulfillment and instead find themselves in service to others by making and keeping what he described as sacred commitments and by rising to the challenges they discover all around and outside of them. "Most successful young people," he writes, "don't look inside and then plan a life. The look outside and find a problem, which summons their life.... Most people don't form a self and then lead a life. They are called by a problem, and the self is constructed gradually by their calling."

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This perspective gives us a measure of freedom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to place ourselves on the side of those who are most vulnerable, and to take great risks and dare great ventures. Why? Because we trust that whatever the immediate results of our efforts, both our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's good promise. Resurrection, we need to remember, only and always follows crucifixion.

So we'll need to try some different things, all the time, before we find things that work best for our setting.

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## Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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> Kenneth Twait 8079 County Road 17 SE

Alexandria, MN 56308

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

Financial Secretary– Cindy Christensen

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Secretary-

Treasurer- Nancy Exley

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*Edition #570* 

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Jeremiah was speaking the truth they needed to hear; they would have to say until generations had passed, and the people had changed their ways. Yet, Jeremiah's message was not despair, but one of hope. Not just hope for the future, but hope for right now.

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Jeremiah reminds us that church is not private, it is not apart from the world, but in the world. We are called to journey from the center of power to the fringes of society to experience God in new ways. Where you support community vitality, you create space for congregational vitality.

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Osakis Lutheran Church P.O. Box 427 Osakis, MN 56360

> Lisa Watnaas P.O. Box 71

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President Elect -

Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer— Nancy Exley

Financial Secretary– Cindy Christensen

Worship-Mary Redetzke

Education-Stephanie Finnegan

Trustees-Lil Ortendahl

Youth- Lacei Sadlemyer

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Through out the school year you showed us your many talents, awards, honors, books read, math masters, science projects, art displays, academic achievements, awesome performances in girls and boys sports, your entertaining plays and musical groups, the many clubs you participated in.

The same high five and congratulations and job well done to the Osakis teachers, counselors, administrative staff and all the great staff, you give our students the direction needed to succeed.

Enjoy your summer!!!

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New York Times columnist David Brooks once challenged new college graduates to take a "pass" on the American obsession with self-fulfillment and instead find themselves in service to others by making and keeping what he described as sacred commitments and by rising to the challenges they discover all around and outside of them. "Most successful young people," he writes, "don't look inside and then plan a life. The look outside and find a problem, which summons their life.... Most people don't form a self and then lead a life. They are called by a problem, and the self is constructed gradually by their calling."

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Once we've identified a worthy challenge, we must experiment...and count of failing, innovate...and count on failing, invent...and count on failing again. An English teacher in my children's middle school once told me, "I tell my kids to make a mistake every day -- just not the same mistake!" Each mistake, each set back, each false start, each failure is not to be lamented by learned from. Further—living in a success-obsessed world can lead us to forget this—and ultimately, it's neither about us, nor up to us. God is the creator, sustainer, and redeemer of this cosmos, and only God can bring the kind of redemption we long for and need. Our job is to partner with God's work wherever we can discern it. If the cross teaches us nothing else, it teaches that success will not always look like success, and victory may often come disguised as defeat. The question isn't whether we're successful, but whether we're faithful. Or, as [American philosopher] Cornel West once said, "Sure it's a failure, but was it a good failure."

This perspective gives us a measure of freedom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to place ourselves on the side of those who are most vulnerable, and to take great risks and dare great ventures. Why? Because we trust that whatever the immediate results of our efforts, both our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's good promise. Resurrection, we need to remember, only and always follows crucifixion.

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> Larry and Christy Werder 14264 Ferret Drive

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*Edition #570* 

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> Thomas and Karen Williamson 20805 133rd Avenue

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Past President- Richard Hansen

Secretary-

Treasurer— Nancy Exley

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*Edition #570* 

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*Edition #570* 

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Osakis Lutheran Church will be participating in the Osakis Parade on June 25<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for volunteers to be with us. We need 12 people to walk the parade route handing out bottled water from our float. 12 coolers (large) are needed too. We are also needing about \$150 more to help with the water bottles and labels.



## **Other News:**

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Worship: \*Video Worship: Service will be recorded & posted on YouTube by Noon on Sunday.

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

Communion by appointment contact Pastor Rich.

### Osakis Lutheran Church

### **Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday May 2, 2023**

Present: Pastor Rich, Kristen Will, Jacki Harth, Nancy Exley, Mike Curtis, Mary Redetzke,
Stephanie Finnegan, Travis Redetzke
The meeting was called to order by President Kristen Will
Pastor Rich led a devotional activity
Sharing of joys and concerns
Approval of agenda.
Nancy made a motion to approve the agenda with additions, Mike 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Old/Unfinished Business
Minutes were reviewed. Mike made a motion to approve, Mary 2 <sup>nd</sup>
New Business
<ul> <li>Radon test in parsonage: The MDH test results indicate mitigation. Pastor will work with Travis to fill the cracks in the basement and then another test will be taken.</li> <li>Music: Shelly T, Pat Converse, Rick Hanson and a couple of others will rotate Sundays to provide music.</li> </ul>
Lawn mowing: there has been donations to pay for a month of lawn mowing. Pastor Rich will follow up.
Community Outreach: Pastor Rich presented a plan as part of his Jerimiah Project. The pro- ject is hospitality and a presence at the Osakis Days Parade on June 25 <sup>th</sup> . A group will meet on 5/17 to make further plans.
<ul> <li>Community use of church building: Just for Kix worked out well this year and have a request to move to Mondays in the fall which was approved. There is a request from local Blue Grass group of musicians to use the church for a jam session 1x a month- approved. Treasurer: Income for April: \$8,211.45. Offering income to date for 2023 is \$32,590.33. Bills paid in April \$8,835.50 with about \$2200 in bills left to pay for April. Expenses to date- \$39,966.09.</li> </ul>
Pastor's Report: Pastor attended the Jerimiah 29 workshop April 17-19 with a 90 day project developed. High school senior recognition Sunday is May 14 <sup>th</sup> . Pathfinders Highway clean up is on May 10 <sup>th</sup> . Funerals are May 6 <sup>th</sup> and May 27 <sup>th</sup> . Committees: Church in Society: NNN
Education and Youth: The education committee will meet 5/3. Stephanie talked about different ways to recruit for VBS.
<ul> <li>Stewardship: A discussion on outreach to church members to increase attendance was discussed.</li> <li>Worship: Thank you to Vickie H. for her musical contributions to our Sunday services. Pentecost Sunday is being planned.</li> <li>Trustees: Travis will follow up with the radon in the parsonage.</li> </ul>
Offer Our Prayers with the Lord's Prayer.
Meeting was adjourned. Next meeting is on Tuesday, June 6th at 6:00pm.
Submitted by Jacki Harth, Council Secretary

### <u>Join Us For Worship</u>

Sunday June 4 Worship Service - 10 a.m.
Sunday June 11 Worship Service - 10 a.m.
Sunday June 18 Worship Service - 10 a.m.
Sunday June 25 Worship Service - 10 a.m.



Registration and Health forms for Vacation Bible School have been mailed. If I missed you, please call the church office and/or there are extra forms in the narthex. Please complete and return to church with your payment.

VBS is open to all children who have completed Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade this school year. Cost is \$25 per child with a \$50 family maximum.

There are sign up sheets in the narthex requesting help with food items, beverage and paper products for VBS. Children are served lunch, a morning and an afternoon snack. Thank you for your donations.

Camperships are available for children and youth attending a Bible Camp this year. We invite you to complete a registration form. Contact the church office for a form. Monies are paid directly to the camp. Luther Crest \$100 – Other Camps \$50



A scholarship is available for students who have completed their first year of college/vocational school.

The scholarship, \$300.00, is given by the Ella Nomeland Scholarship Fund. Contact the church office for an application. Monies will be paid directly to the school, scholarship are paid in the fall.

On Sunday, June 4, 2023 we will welcome Remington Marie Ehrenberg into our church family. Remington is the daughter of Tammy O'Neil and Benjamen Ehrenberg. Remington was born in February, 2023. Jenny Gilbert, Hope Baum and Cody Lehrke are her sponsors.

Family and friends gathered for a memorial service for Jean Jensen on Saturday, May 28, 2023.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, June 16 at 2:00 p.m. for Stella Bender. Stella passed away this past winter.



# <u>'June Birthdays'</u>



06/01 Marlys Benson, Blake Kleinschmidt, Brook Kleinschmidt 06/05 Mackenzie Staloch 06/06 Madison Stier Marcus Wolf 06/07 Michael Gilbert 06/11 Michael Steinbeisser 06/12 Abby Kleinschmidt 06/15 Seth Staloch, Shelly Engfer-Triebenbach 06/17 Travis Redetzke, Jason Schueler 06/18 Karlee Hoffarth 06/22 Brad Hoffarth, Josiah Kapaun 06/23 Hillary Bjorstrom 06/24 Judy Reinke, Michael Woidyla 06/25 Trent Redetzke 06/29 Lee VanNyhuis



A special high five, congratulations and job well done to all our Osakis school students for a great school year.

Through out the school year you showed us your many talents, awards, honors, books read, math masters, science projects, art displays, academic achievements, awesome performances in girls and boys sports, your entertaining plays and musical groups, the many clubs you participated in.

The same high five and congratulations and job well done to the Osakis teachers, counselors, administrative staff and all the great staff, you give our students the direction needed to succeed.

Enjoy your summer!!!

#### **Rich Reflections**

New York Times columnist David Brooks once challenged new college graduates to take a "pass" on the American obsession with self-fulfillment and instead find themselves in service to others by making and keeping what he described as sacred commitments and by rising to the challenges they discover all around and outside of them. "Most successful young people," he writes, "don't look inside and then plan a life. The look outside and find a problem, which summons their life.... Most people don't form a self and then lead a life. They are called by a problem, and the self is constructed gradually by their calling."

We can deduce that the same is true of a community. Our congregations will not discover themselves until they give themselves away. No amount of time spent on developing a mission statement or devising new member campaigns can substitute for looking around one's neighborhood and asking, "Who needs us?" and "What can we do with our resources to bear God's love to this part of the world?"

Paradox: The Holy Spirit doesn't prevent failure but invites it. Or, to put it slightly differently, the Holy Spirit invites us to find fulfillment and victory in and through our setbacks and failures. As inspired as I was by the Mission Control dictum during the crisis of Apollo 13 that "failure is not an option," I think that kind of mindset is paralyzing too many of our congregations. Failure is not only an option, it is inevitable. The problems this world -- and our congregations -face are too great, too complex, and too significant to imagine that we will hit upon the best solution the first time out...or maybe ever.

Once we've identified a worthy challenge, we must experiment...and count of failing, innovate...and count on failing, invent...and count on failing again. An English teacher in my children's middle school once told me, "I tell my kids to make a mistake every day -- just not the same mistake!" Each mistake, each set back, each false start, each failure is not to be lamented by learned from. Further—living in a success-obsessed world can lead us to forget this—and ultimately, it's neither about us, nor up to us. God is the creator, sustainer, and redeemer of this cosmos, and only God can bring the kind of redemption we long for and need. Our job is to partner with God's work wherever we can discern it. If the cross teaches us nothing else, it teaches that success will not always look like success, and victory may often come disguised as defeat. The question isn't whether we're successful, but whether we're faithful. Or, as [American philosopher] Cornel West once said, "Sure it's a failure, but was it a good failure."

This perspective gives us a measure of freedom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to place ourselves on the side of those who are most vulnerable, and to take great risks and dare great ventures. Why? Because we trust that whatever the immediate results of our efforts, both our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's good promise. Resurrection, we need to remember, only and always follows crucifixion.

So we'll need to try some different things, all the time, before we find things that work best for our setting.

Pr. Rich

#### Osakis Lutheran Church Action News June 2023

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*Edition #570* 

#### Jeremiah 29 Project... What is that!?

Osakis Lutheran is part of the Jeremiah 29 Project. It connects congregations with their communities in ways to promote community and congregational sustainability. Leaders participate with other leaders from across our NW Minn Synod, each engaged in their own community projects. We're part of the first 10 congregations to do this.

When we think about Jeremiah 29, we often think about Jeremiah 29:11 *"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm; to give you a future and a hope."* These words were for a community captured and taken from their birthplace. People were anxious to get back to their homeland.

Jeremiah was speaking the truth they needed to hear; they would have to say until generations had passed, and the people had changed their ways. Yet, Jeremiah's message was not despair, but one of hope. Not just hope for the future, but hope for right now.

In a less familiar verse, Jeremiah writes, "Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray. For in its welfare you will find your welfare." Invest in where you are now. Have children. Plant crops. Build a home. Jeremiah says, "pray for their land." This is a radical message, because who would want to pray for their captors? This is a way of saying, "Love your enemies."

Jeremiah reminds us that church is not private, it is not apart from the world, but in the world. We are called to journey from the center of power to the fringes of society to experience God in new ways. Where you support community vitality, you create space for congregational vitality.

# Pathfinder Students!!!

We'd love to have your leadership & assistance with the following:

Wednesday, June 28th: Outdoor Movie Night at 300 W. Queen Street at 8:00 pm (assist with setup, cleanup and selling food and beverage items)

Monday, July 10th - Thursday, July 13th: Vacation bible School at church from 8:45 am- 3:00 pm each day (help counselors with activities for various ages of children). Snacks and lunch will be served.

Wednesday, July 12th: Outdoor Movie Night at 300 W. Queen Street at 8:00 pm (assist with setup, cleanup, and selling food and beverages items)

Please let Melanie Stier know if you can help or if you have any questions. Thank you!! We look forward to seeing you all at these fun events.