

Osakis Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 427

Osakis, MN 56360

***Osakis Lutheran Church
2021 Church Council***

President—Melanie Stier

President Elect—Rick Hansen

Past President— Jessie Thornbloom

Secretary—Jacki Harth

Treasurer—Nancy Exley

Financial Secretary—Cindy Christensen

Deacons— Wilma Triebenbach

Worship— Mary Redetzke

Education—Kristen Will

Trustees— Lil Ortendahl

Youth— Lacei Sadlemyer

Stewardship—Mike Curtis

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.

Reports

A. Treasurer: Income for July \$9,219.94 (does not include 7/22 and 7/29). Bills paid in July \$10,630.40 which includes bills and payroll. Income to date: Offering \$65,666.68, Special memorial \$39,691.68, Endowment \$350,217.14. Bills paid in July \$10,630.40. Bills paid to date \$79,576.56. A motion to approve \$3000 out of the mission fund temporarily to pay overdue bills by Mike C., with Mary R 2nd. approved

B. Pastor's Report:

-Galeon bible study has resumed

-Pastor has been preparing for more youth and education activities this fall.

-Thank you to Dave Holtz from Luther Crest for his service during Pastor's vacation.

-As of August 1st, the local Funeral Home has changed owners with Dana and Ginger Hetland retiring.

-Pastor Rich, Matt Stier and the Triebenbach children golfed in a fundraiser for Luther Crest to help raise \$25,000 for Luther Crest and they golfed quite well.

C. Committees:

Trustees: A 2nd quote has been provided for the bell tower repair. A warranty on the sump pump has been obtained from Pro-fix. Will need volunteers for lawn mowing. Bathroom work is almost done.

Stewardship: No new news (NNN)

Church in Society: NNN

Education and Youth: This committee has a list of dates for fundraising and gathering for the youth. During the upcoming movie night, a list of youth activities will be distributed.

Offer Our Prayers with the Lord's Prayer with a special devotion for rain.

Meeting was adjourned with the next meeting on Monday September 13th at 6:30.

Submitted by Jacki Harth, Council Secretary

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.**

Osakis Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes, Monday August 9th, 2021

Present: Pastor Rich Fitzer, Jessie Thornbloom, Nancy Exley, Jacki Harth , Mike Curtis, Mary Redetzke

Past President Jessie Thornbloom called the meeting to order.

- A. Devotions- Pastor Rich
- B. Sharing joys/concerns, highs/lows

Approval of Agenda

- A. Additions to Unfinished and New Business. Mike C. made a motion to approve the agenda with additions, Mary R. 2nd. Approved.

Old Business

- A. Minutes were reviewed from last meeting. Nancy E. made a motion to approve, Mary R. 2nd. Approved.
- B. Unfinished items from previous meetings:
 - Local Covid data and vaccination rates were discussed. Covid protocols will remain with the current seating arrangement and individual communion for services. As of the meeting, local 7 day averages are low and the public school has not changed any plans in response to increases in the state. Bishop Tesch issued a You-Tube message encouraging covid vaccinations with thoughtful and important information. Pastor Rich will make this available for members to view (i.e. provide link) via email or the Face Book page and is endorsed by the council members present.

Rescheduling Endowment Meeting: Pastor Rich has been in communication with Rev. Keith Pearson on his availability. Sunday the 26th after the service will be looked in to but nothing has been confirmed. When a date is confirmed, postcards and emails will be sent to members.

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

- A. The Synod sent a letter to Council Presidents and Council members. He emphasized providing support to members experiencing stress and struggles during the drought. The Bishop also stated “Church councils may consider offering Rostered Ministers and church staff an extra day off on occasion or some additional vacation days in the coming weeks and months. Express appreciation and gratitude.” Pastor Rich made a request for a weekend and one extra day off.

Mike C. made a motion to approve the time off, Mary R. 2nd. Approved.

Join Us For Worship

Sunday September 5 Worship Service 10 a.m.

Sunday September 12 Worship Service 10 a.m.

Sunday September 19 Worship Service 10 a.m. - Rally Sunday & Family Bingo!

Sunday September 26 Worship Service 10 a.m. - Youth Group Bowling (after morning service)

As of now, we will continue to offer both 'In-Person' and 'Online' services. If you join us 'In-Person' we have opened a few more pews, but ask that you continue to 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 You Tube.

Church Council encourages Safe Practices

At the August church council meeting they voted to encourage people to receive a COVID vaccine now that it is fully approved by the FDA. This is not a requirement, but rather a strong encouragement to do what is best for church family.

Dr. Francis Collins, practicing Christian and award winning scientist made the following comments in an interview with Christianity Today:

“First of all, there’s a lot of things on social media. Please don’t pay too much attention to those. Go and look at the real data— getvaccineanswers.org is a good place to do that. But secondly, if you’ve been praying for protection for yourself and your family from COVID-19, and now these vaccines come along that are safe and effective, it kind of seems to me like that’s an answer to prayer. It felt that way to me, being part of the process of getting those developed. *Maybe think of it as a gift from God*—but a gift you’ve got to unwrap.”

Also our NW Minn Synod bishop Rev. Bill Tesch gives us perspective of how God works through ordinary means, and that doing things for ourselves is also a way to love our neighbors.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o6oAEQTB5co&t=5s>)



Mission Action

It is good for the Monday Quilters to be back again & we are rolling along!



- On August 2nd, we had 3 quilters, 2 quilts brought in & 4 quilts tied.
- On August 16th, we had 2 quilters, 2 quilts brought in & 5 quilts tied.

**Thank-you to all who volunteer their time & talents! It was a very good month!

Please join us if you want to, or if you have a free open day!

We meet every other Monday from 8:00 am - Noon in the church Fellowship Hall.



Offering

August Income to date	\$5,769.00
General Fund Income to date	\$67,603.68
Bills paid to date	\$79,576.56

August 1, 2021

Envelopes	\$1,167.00
-----------	------------

<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$1,167.00</u>
---------------	-------------------

August 8, 2021

Envelopes	\$612.00
Loose	\$20.00
Dedicated:	
Building Repairs	\$200.00
Tech Fund	\$100.00

<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$932.00</u>
---------------	-----------------

August 15, 2021

Envelopes	\$925.00
Loose	\$6.00
Dedicated:	
Stoeckel Campership	\$75.00

<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$1,006.00</u>
---------------	-------------------

August 22, 2021

Envelopes	\$2,589.00
Dedicated:	
Nat'l Youth Gathering	\$75.00

<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$2,664.00</u>
---------------	-------------------

Prayer Concerns

Trenton VanNyhuis, Shelly Engfer-Triebebach,
Grace Johnson, Janice Frank, Marie Larson,
and Brenda Majerus.

**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, Stella Bender,
Audrey Collins, Lorraine (Ivy) Nomeland

Terrace Heights: Alice Sanders

Westview Assisted Living: LaRayne Johnson,
Ruby Maus, 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!***



'September Birthdays'

09/02 Cassie Halbur
09/07 Chad Redetzke,
Richard Steinbeisser
09/09 Anna Woidyla
09/10 Makayla Finnegan
09/11 Julie Strelow, Katelynn Strelow
09/12 Scott Triebenbach
09/13 Owen Reilly
09/14 Aria Kugel
09/15 Rob Engfer, Anthony Garcia,
James Gilbert, Shari Laven
09/17 Joanne Eason, Tonya Malvin
09/19 Isaac Maddock,
Averie Mounsdon
09/20 Jason Kreemer,
Ryan Maddock
09/22 Anthony Strelow
09/24 Richard Harth, Isaac Infanger,
Bradley Strelow
09/26 Arlene Ludwig, John Ramey
Julie Schoeck
09/28 Dean Johnsen
09/29 Wendy Stephens



Church Council Encourages Vaccination

Osakis Lutheran Church Council has unanimously agreed to encourage everyone to seek out and receive the COVID-19 vaccine. It has proven to be more than 90% effective preventing serious infections and is also proving effective in reducing the transmission. This encouragement comes in the spirit of Jesus who tells us to care for the least (most vulnerable) among us. Vaccines are available at all clinics and most pharmacies.

STAY SAFEMN



COVID-19 VACCINE FACTS

The COVID-19 vaccine is free.

You can get the vaccine no matter if you have insurance or what your immigration status is.

The COVID-19 vaccine is safe.

It has gone through all the same safety steps of any other vaccine.

The COVID-19 vaccine works.

The vaccine is very good at protecting people from COVID-19 disease. It takes some time after your final shot to build up protection against COVID-19. The person giving you the vaccine will let you know if you need one or two doses. If you need two doses, it is important to get both doses for the best protection.

2-DOSE VACCINE



1-DOSE VACCINE



mn MINNESOTA

mn.gov/vaccine

Minnesota Department of Health | health.mn.gov | 651-201-5000 | 425 Robert Street North PO Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
Contact health.communications@state.mn.us to request an alternate format. | 02/24/2021

Rich Reflections

Summer isn't over yet. Sept. 22 is the first day of fall. But we know that fall activities and a new program year is starting with the start of September.

You can look for Pathfinder orientation & ditch clean up the 15th. Rally Sunday, Blessing of Backpacks, and Family Bingo will be on the 19th. We'll then have a picnic-style meal (food provided) and discussion about our endowment fund on the 26th. We'll also be having 3rd grade Bibles and Affirmation of Baptism in October.

We are looking forward to, and hoping for, a return to "normal." There are a number of things to look forward to in the next several weeks. But in the back of our minds, we know that the situation with the pandemic is still evolving. Our Safe Team will be working with the Council to make sure that we do our best to walk a middle ground of keeping one another safe and at the same time not being overly restrictive.

There are also some things that have probably changed for the foreseeable future. Some of that is good news. We are planning to continue video streaming worship. We also know that we can do some things with fewer in-person meetings. And at the same time we miss seeing people as often as we have in the past. But the words of an old hymn can give us comfort and reassurance in times of uncertainty.

*My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

*Refrain:
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.*

*When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]*

It's a time for us, along with every other church, to ask and remind ourselves, "Why do we exist?" That's not to suggest that Osakis Lutheran shouldn't exist. But it's an opportune time to consider what should we hold onto, what new things should we try, and are there a few things to let go of and give thanks for what they provided our congregation.

Whenever I think about the core of my faith, and our life together, the simplest way for me to express that is Love God/Love Neighbor. As Jesus reminded followers, "Love the Lord with all your strength, and your neighbor as yourself."

Then there's also the parable of the sheep and the goats in Matthew 25. There Jesus reminds us that some of the most important things we do are caring for the hungry, thirsty, stranger, homeless, sick and imprisoned. When we do those things we're doing them for Jesus. It's a simple idea, but it's challenging work to carry it out in the long run. But it's more than worth it!

So let's come together again this fall and see what old and new ways of living our faith in community that God will lead us to do.

See you in Church,
Pr. Rich Fitzer

See you at worship,
Pr. Rich Fitzer

Osakis Lutheran Church Action News September 2021



Edition #549
Debbie Bulfer, Editor

Council's Corner: by Melanie Stier

A joyful summer to you all! What a wonderful celebration it was last month to honor and thank Pat Converse for her many years of blessing our church with her organist talents! Thank you so much, Pat! We truly appreciate you and all those who give of their time and talents!

Thank you also to those who attended the informational dinner last month to meet and discuss thoughts on the Endowment Fund. We've had some great conversations over the past months, and we hope to continue those and assure the usage of these funds is honoring those who have given. Please consider attending future meetings as well, as we value all the ideas and contributions.

Over the summer, we've made some improvements to the church, including an automatic door opener for a set of doors going from the sanctuary to the fellowship hall. There are also automatic lights installed in the fellowship hall bathrooms.

Have a blessed summer and prayers for continued health!

God's Blessings, Melanie Stier

August 1, 2021

Dear friends — After proudly serving the city of Osakis and surrounding communities in funeral service for over 40 years, Dana and Ginger Hetland feel it is the right time to announce new ownership of the Roy-Hetland Funeral Home in Osakis, MN. We are turning over the keys to our business to the Vertin family of funeral homes. It was important to us to leave our business and the families of Osakis in the right care. Vertin is a family-owned funeral business and they will keep Roy-Hetland Funeral Home as an independently owned funeral home. The daily management of the funeral home will be under the direction of Crag Buysee, Funeral Director and Manager of Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory in Alexandria, MN which is also owned by Vertin and Tom Anderson. Our address, phone number, email and website will all remain the same. Ginger and I whole-heartedly thank you for the loyalty, friendship and trust you have given us while serving your families. We are grateful for the relationships we've built. Sincerely, Dana and Ginger Hetland

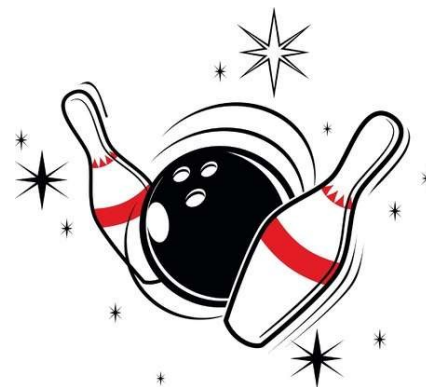
Save the Dates!!!



Rally Sunday – is just around the corner! September 19th, during worship, students should bring their backpack to be blessed for the 2021-2022 schoolyear.



Family Bingo – September 19th at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There will be prizes for all ages! A free-will donation lunch will be provided as well. Invite your friends and family for this exciting event!



Youth Group Bowling– September 26th students in grades 4 and up are invited to a Youth Group Event at the Bowling Barn. Meet in the fellowship hall right after worship (11:00 am) There will be a quick information meeting and then you'll walk to the Bowling Barn for some bowling and pizza. Sorry parents, this event is just for the kids, so you get the morning off.