

Osakis Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 427

Osakis, MN 56360

«First Name» «Last Name»

«Address Line 1»

«Address Line 2»

«City», «State» «ZIP Code»

***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— Lacey Sadlemyer

Stewardship— Mike Curtis

**Church Office Hours:**

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday  
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Church phone number #859-2350

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

Action News deadline is the  
20th of the month.

Committees and the congrega-  
tion are welcome to contribute  
news!!!

Hello Families of Osakis Lutheran Church!

A new school year is upon us, and we are looking at starting Sunday School on September 17<sup>th</sup>. We are looking forward to teaching and learning alongside your children! Please complete the registration (in the narthex) and return to the church office or bring to Rally Day on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Also, we are always looking for teachers, substitutes, education committee members, and help with our Christmas program (which will be on either December 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> this year). Please prayerfully consider sharing your time with our children through these different opportunities-we're a really fun group to work with!

Important dates to know:

September 17, 2023: Rally Sunday (first day of SS)

October 1, 2023 & October 8, 2023: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Bible meeting & presentation

December 10, 2023 OR December 17, 2023: Christmas Program

March 28, 2024: First Communion (Maundy Thursday) for 5<sup>th</sup> graders

We're looking forward to another great year with your children! We can't wait to see them all, again!

Yours in Christ,

*Stephanie Finnegan*

Osakis Lutheran Church Education Committee

**Other News:**

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

---

**Call the church office 859-2350  
For pastoral care.**

**Communion by appointment**

**Osakis Lutheran Church**  
**Council Meeting Minutes, August 8, 2023**

Present: Kristen Will, Stephanie Finnegan, Shelly Triebenbach, Rick Hanson, Mary Redetzke, Travis Redetzke, Mike Curtis and Nancy Exley

The meeting was called to order by President Kristin Will

Kristin lead us in an opening prayer

Sharing of joys and concerns

Approval of agenda.

Approved with no additions.

Old/Unfinished Business

Minutes were reviewed. Mike Curtis motioned to approve July minutes; Stephanie Finnegan 2<sup>nd</sup> and motion approved.

New Business

Interim Pastor update: We have already interviewed one interim, no decision made. Kristen has three other candidates and she will contact them to set up interviews.

Pastor Jeremy Pedersen from Nelson approached us in regards to the church sign out on the highway, it has fallen down. We have been asked to help with cost to erect new sign. Total cost would be \$898.00 and would be divided between four churches. Stephanie Finnegan made a motion that OLC would help with our portion of the cost. We will wait to hear from Pastor Jeremy for sending payment.

Treasurers Report: Offerings for July \$8,991.00 with \$2,300 in transfers from savings accounts. Total bills paid including payroll \$10,287.70. Offering income through July \$56,337.33 and savings transfers of \$11,000.00. Total bills paid through 71,371.28. Portico bills have been paid using Mission Investment Money \$14,868.70.

Council Talk: Melanie Stier wrote a wonderful letter to our congregation. We have sent this letter to current and non active members. Discussed a possible sharing with other churches.

Committees:

Church in Society: No news.

Education and Youth: Discussed having Pathfinder students assist in Sunday School. Sunday School and Pathfinder letters have been sent to parents. Two college scholarships approved, checks will be mailed late August/early September.

Stewardship: Possibly a winter stewardship drive.

Worship: Committee meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month or as needed. Inquired as to committee duties description. Secretary will locate for Mary. We talked about bells.

Trustees: Talked about light bulbs for the fellowship hall and the stove hood fan motor; either replace or repair. There is an area in the parsonage that needs to be finished where the sump pump was installed prior. Possible radon leak.

With no further business we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting was adjourned. Next meeting is on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 6:00pm.

Submitted by Nancy Exley, Interim Church Secretary

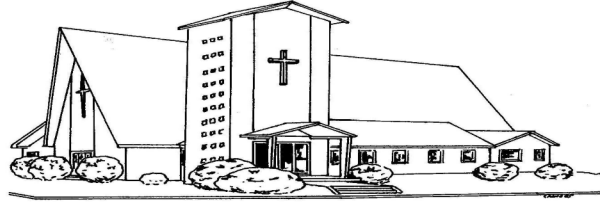
## Join Us For Worship

Sunday September 3 with Pastor John Riggle @ 10 a.m.

Sunday September 10 with Pastor Ruth Blom @ 10 a.m.

Sunday September 17 with Pastor Ruth Blom @ 10 a.m.

Sunday September 24 @ 10 a.m.



Hello Friends of Osakis Lutheran Church!

First of all, thank you for your constant prayers and support for our church throughout the years! It is very much felt and appreciated.

Next, as many of you may know, we are now entering a time of transition. Pastor Rich Fitzer has chosen to leave the congregation to serve Christ in other ways. The council has approved hiring an interim so we can take our time to find the perfect fit for a Pastor for our congregation.

In the meantime, we plan to continue doing amazing things, such as movie nights (110 people attended our July event!), Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, Christmas programs and services, fellowship times, and engaging in community events. In addition to these, we would love to also add various Bible study groups, work to bring back committees and circles, captivate the interest of potential congregation members, and discover new ways to further engage in our community. We're open to any ideas you'd like to share with us!

*What can you do?!* Pray! And come visit us in church! Bring a guest or two or three! There is so much going on and we plan to have so much more. Whether you've been to church recently or not, come visit! Look for upcoming events and opportunities to meet the Interim Pastor and engage in our church community. We can't wait to see you soon!

Melanie Stier

Education Committee Member



*Giving to God*  
Tithes and Offerings

<b>August 6, 2023</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>34</b>
Envelopes		\$1,218.00
Loose		22.00
Building		300.00
Memorial		350.00
Online		<u>720.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$2,610.00</b>

<b>August 13, 2023</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>47</b>
Envelopes		\$ 978.00
Loose		60.00
Dishcloths		110.00
Memorial		25.00
Online		<u>455.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$1,628.00</b>

<b>August 20, 2023</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>32</b>
Envelopes		\$ 893.00
Loose		36.00
World Hunger		3.00
Anchor Ad		120.00
Online		<u>325.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$1,377.00</b>

<b>August 27, 2023</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>23</b>
Envelopes		463.00
Loose		10.00
Quilts/Dishcloth sales		567.00
World Hunger		2.00
Church Rent		50.00
Online		<u>775.00</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,867.00</b>

You can now give your offering online!  
Go to: [www.osakislutheranelca.com](http://www.osakislutheranelca.com) and  
click on the "Donate" button to enroll.  
The website is safe and secure.

Thank You!

**Prayer Concerns**



Shelly Engfer-Triebebach, Lil Ortendahl,  
Delores Johnson, Axel Vik, Cody Hansen, and  
Barbara Berg

**Community Memorial Home:** Elaine Mattson,  
Don Jensen, Delores Stephens

**Terrace Heights:** Alice Sanders

**Westview Assisted Living:** Faye Maus,  
Madlyn Manders

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

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

**Financial Update for the Congregation**

**August offering income** **\$7,482.00**

**August bills no payroll** **\$4,369.62**

**Portico bills pd from**  
**Mission Investment Fund** **19,868.00**

Offering to August 31: \$63,819.33

Transfers to Operating: 11,000.00

Bills paid to July 31: 75,740.88

## 'August Birthdays'



09/07 Richard Steinbeisser

09/09 Nora Kelly

Anna Woidyla

09/10 Makayla Finnegan

09/12 Scott Treibenbach

09/13 Owen Reilly

09/14 Aria Kugel

09/15 James Gilbert

09/17 Joanne Eason

09/19 Isaac Maddock

09/20 Ryan Maddock

09/24 Richard Harth

Isaac Infanger

09/26 John Ramey

09/29 Wendy Stephens

09/30 Brooklyn Vik

Happy Birthday to you!!! We wish you a great day!!!



Just for Kix Dance will again use our facilities for their weekly dance classes. A “meet and greet” was held on August 21 and a two day dance camp on August 22 and 23. Classes will begin in September and be on Mondays. We welcome Just for Kix!!!

We are always looking for participation in Sunday service. Please offer your time to be an Usher, a Lector, to help serve Communion and provide fellowship. We thank you for your time!!

## Council President Report

What an exciting time of the year! School is starting soon, fall sports are in full swing, and the anticipation of the cool, crisp fall weather and beautiful colors is making my heart happy! We are in a season of change in more ways than one, which can also be an exciting and hopeful time. The council has been busy making sure that we have coverage for our Sunday services, while we have been interviewing possible candidates for an interim position. We have 4 candidates, and by the time you read this, we should have someone picked and have plans moving forward for a full-time interim minister. The council is feeling hopeful that this new change will bring old members back, new members in, and renew all the current members' spirits! I hope that you will feel called to worship, to engage with each other, and recreate that sense of community that was so strongly felt here when I first started attending Osakis Lutheran several years ago. Now, more than ever, I think that we need to reconnect with others and with our community in order to grow stronger in our faith, in our relationships, and within ourselves.

I'd like to explain a little bit about our interim hiring process, so that everyone understands the position of the interim position. An interim is someone who is hired to keep a congregation running as long as needed until a permanent person is hired. Sometimes, but not usually, the interim could stay on as a more permanent position. Interim positions usually last about one year. We have both fully ordained pastors, as well as "SAM"s from which to choose from. SAMs are lay people who have felt a call to serve God, but are not in a position in their lives at which returning to seminary is a viable option. SAMs are trained and able to perform the sacraments (baptize, confirm, serve communion, etc.), lead worship, tend to our members in nursing homes and hospitals, etc., lead confirmation classes and Sunday school, among other pastoral duties. With additional training and certification, they are also able to

preside over wedding ceremonies. Essentially, they are trained to perform the same duties as fully ordained pastors, but often at a lower pay rate since they have not graduated from a seminary. We were given the names of four candidates, two ordained pastors and two SAMs. The council wanted to talk with all four people in order to make the best choice for our congregation. We're hoping that this next year brings with it healing from our past hurts, excitement to serve alongside each other, and a renewed spirit and energy within our walls as well as when we leave here.

I have been trying to learn people's names, and while introducing myself, have met so many kind people here at Osakis Lutheran. I want to thank all of you for your continued support of this church and its work. I encourage all of you to invite a friend (new or old) to join us sometime, and to introduce yourselves to our sweet pulpit supply pastors who have been kind enough to help us out during this transition by keeping our services running as smoothly as possible. Also, please join us in welcoming our new interim when he or she is announced to the congregation! We are planning a good, old fashioned pot luck to welcome him or her once that person accepts the position in order to make them feel as welcome as possible! Watch for ways you can help serve during our worship or other community outreach as we continue to plan for an exciting and Christ-filled year!

Sincerely,

Kristen Will, Council President

**Osakis Lutheran Church**  
**Action News**  
**September, 2023**



*"Where there is love,  
there is life."*

*- Mahatma Gandhi*



*Edition #573*

**Education News!!**

Reformation Sunday is October 29 with the banquet on Sunday, October 15, 2023.

Third Grade Bibles will be given on Sunday, October 8, 2023. A class will be held the week prior to that Sunday.

We are looking forward to more movie nights.

The Ella Nomeland College Scholarship has been awarded to: Mara VanNyhuis and Anna Woidyla. They each have received \$300.00. Congratulations Mara and Anna!!

Pathfinder Parents,

We are having an Orientation Meeting & Ditch Cleaning for you and your youth regarding the Pathfinder Program at Osakis Lutheran. The meeting will be **Wednesday, September 13, 5:45 p.m. in the church fellowship hall**. We will review the class schedule, expectations and materials. Supper will be provided for you.

Similar to last year, we are planning to have our weekly meals. This will include 15-20 meals during the course of the year. So we are asking families to pay \$40, one time, to cover the cost.

We look forward to seeing you on September 13<sup>th</sup> to get the program year off to a good start. If you have a previously schedule conflict please call as soon as possible, and make arrangements to get the information your household will need. Thank you for your partnership in sharing the Christian faith with your child!

We ask that you return registration forms prior to or bring with you on the first night of class.

Together in Christ,

Christian Education Committee