

**Osakis Lutheran Church
Action News
April 2019**



Sign up sheet is in the narthex for soup and sandwiches for Wednesday Lenten suppers, and for youth Palm Sunday breakfast.

*Edition #541
Vicki Hinrichs, Editor*



Youth

The Youth Group would love to invite you all to have breakfast at 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall on Sunday April 14th. Free will offering.

We have 6 kids going to summer camp this year.

Eagle Scout ceremony was held on March 24th at 1 p.m. Thanks Pastor Rich for being part of this special day.

Jill Ramey, Youth Group leader



Eagle Scouts Matt Ramey and Jason Wiggins



Church in Society

MN Food Share: OLC has once again generously given to our neighbors at Douglas County and Todd County Food Shelves. A very big thank you to everyone! Food and funds will be divided between both. A final amount will be noted in the church bulletins once all gets counted.

Habitat for Humanity will be April's focus. Information and applications will be out for persons interested. Don't forget about shopping or donating to the RESTORE or lending a hand on a build. Also, an article on Aging in Place will be out on display about a local neighbor. Additional pamphlets and monetary envelopes will be out as well.

Rich Reflections

“Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!”

Those are sounds of Easter joy, new life and celebration. “Praise the Lord” is what we hear in our heads or say out loud as winter’s icy grip is broken, lawns and gardens reappear, and the swelling of rivers has slowed or stopped sooner than predicted.

So what do resurrection, forgiveness and new life look like in the Body of Christ? The 4th & 5th Sundays in Lent gave us strong images to see the healing, homecoming, and restoration God offers and desires **for each and every one of us.**

These thoughts are about Isaiah 43, a scripture we read March 31. They are from Rev. Mark Throntveit, who is a professor at Luther Seminary.

“God is ‘about to do a new thing.’ And what God is about to do will be another act of deliverance, just as it was at the Red Sea. The newness consists in the message that God is not limited to acting in the same old ways to accomplish new acts of salvation, and that Israel, and we, will be surprised at the contemporary relevance of God to our lives, here and now, if only we are attentive. (vs.19a)

“There is no need to limit God to past mercies. God’s mercies are new “morning by morning,” to quote the hymn. The gospel needs to be heard every day. The life-giving word of forgiveness can’t be proclaimed in the past tense. It was wonderful when it was announced yesterday, but yesterday’s gospel is today’s law. We need to hear the gospel afresh, every day.”

Then from Rev. Mary Hinkle Shore on the Prodigal Son parable:

“Maybe the *goal* of the father’s love is not that the younger son will see the error of his ways and come home (important, but not the main goal), or that the father will see him in the distance and run to him in joy (important too, but the story is not over). Instead, the climax of the story is something *not in* the story at all: the climax of the story is the community that will be formed when the two brothers are together again. Anything less than this is just same old, same old.

“God hates sin so much not because God is a peevish scorekeeper, but because sin harms those that God loves: you and your neighbor. What makes reconciliation between brothers possible? The father’s message to the older son, ‘This brother of yours was dead and has come to life.’ (Luke 15:32) The past is not the only factor shaping the future of the two brothers.

“That could be a definition of forgiveness: the past does not have all the power in this relationship. If the past were defining things, little brother would still be dead to his family and maybe not so far from really dead. The father’s message to the older son is, ‘We have a different present and future than anything in the past has led us to expect, one in which we are all together without the old patterns of harm inflicted and endured over and over. This is the reason for the party.’”

Our baptism into Jesus’ death & resurrection (Rom. 6), means that we have died to, been cut free from, and raised up out of “our slavery to self.” **Really, the only thing left for us to do is to admit that we (you and I) need forgiveness as much as anyone else, and that everyone who believes in Jesus is just as completely forgiven as we (you and I) are.**

Easter is a bold, in-our-face, party of God reminding us that there is absolutely no end to the lengths God will go to forgive us, welcome us back, and restore us to community with him and with “these brothers and sisters of yours.” Just like before, God doesn’t always do it the way we want or expect.

Come, join in God’s Easter celebration April 21:

God invites us (you and me) to be there.

We need each other more than we think.

It can, and will be better than we imagine.

Pr. Rich Fitzer

April Birthdays

- 1 Greg Johnson
- 2 Larry Frisch, Darren Redetzke
- 3 Chloe Bjorstrom
- 4 Logan Grove, Alexis Thornbloom
- 6 Annabelle Redetzke
- 9 Kali Schoeck, Isabelle Szech
- 10 Jon Hinnenkamp, Joy Larson
- 12 Laurie Garcia
- 15 Carol Nack, Amanda Steinbeisser
- 18 Myron Barber, Jason Mounsdon, Neil Ranum, Abby Will, Morgan Will
- 20 Trenton VanNyhuis
- 21 Kaitlyn Malvin
- 22 Linda Blake
- 24 Mike Curtis, Lawrence Lewin
- 25 Darcy Larson
- 27 Andi Johnson, Bev Schultz
- 28 Vicky Grove, Morgan Staloch, Seth Strelow
- 29 Dinara Dykema, Leah Maddock, Madlyn Manders
- 30 Joe Johnson, Jordan Judd, Charles Miller, Mary Redetzke, Judy Thornbloom



Mission Action Moment

Despite a wintry March, 20 quilts were added to our count. 5 were from Sheila, 7 baby quilts were donated by her friend Linda, and our “faithful few” were able to complete 7. More help is needed with the 60” x 80” Lutheran World Relief quilts. Shipping will be at the end of April, the 24th, and thus far we have 30 quilts ready to go.

Yea, we are BEGGING for more workers! April 1st, 15th, and 29th. Doors open by 8 a.m. “Come when you can; leave when you must” is our motto.

We have donated 3 quilts to Luther Crest Bible Camp to be used in the new cabins.

A check for \$200 was received from the REA; we are grateful for that donation.

We express our sincere sympathy to our dear friend and coworker, Carol Marthaler, in the loss of her husband Johnny. May God’s peace and comfort be with you.

Rebekah Circle Minutes 3/12/19

Members present: Madlyn Manders, Alice Sanders, Sharon Kummrow, Ruby Maus, LaRayne Johnson, Janice Frank, Marlys Ferris, and Marlys Benson.

LaRayne opened the meeting with a reading from Make Prayer a Habit by Alan Hamilton. The devotion she read was the Methodist Covenant Prayer.

We received the 2019 OLCW Handbook. LaRayne will distribute them.

Action News was assembled by Ruby Maus, Alice Sanders, LaRayne Johnson, Madlyn Manders, and Paul Jacobson. Pastor Rich mailed them.

Confirmation will be on April 7th. Don Watschke has made and donated the 8 crosses for this year's Confirmands. Marlys bought the bags to put them in and LaRayne Johnson will assemble the bags.

LaRayne was hostess. She served a yummy dessert which was enjoyed by all. Next month's hostess is Sharon Kummrow.

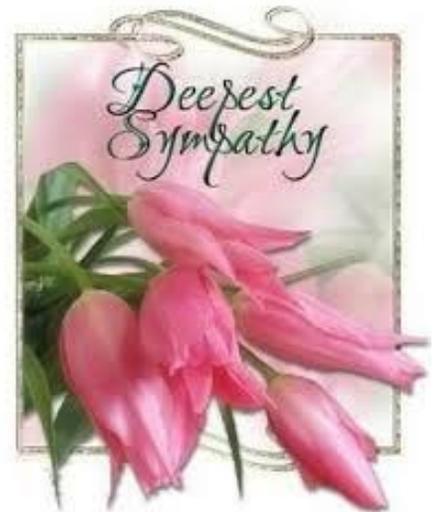
Treasurer's Report: We began the month with a balance of \$123.00. \$24.00 was added on 3/12, which gave us a balance of \$147.00. Check #784 is still out. I will be writing check #785 to the OLCW for \$117.00 which will bring our balance back to \$30.00.

Our next meeting will be on April 9th at 2:00 p.m. at the Terrace Heights lunchroom. We would love to see you. Come if you can.

Our next Bible study will be the articles in the April Gather magazine.

Our sincere condolences to one of our quilters, Carol Marthaler. Carol's husband, Johnny passed away March 11. Please keep Carol and her family in your prayers.

Also, condolences to Mary Redetzke and family. Mary's sister-in-law Kay Rasmusen passed away March 10. Please keep Mary and her family in your prayers as well.



April 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Sewing 8 a.m.		CIS 2 p.m. Soup Supper 5:30 p.m. Lenten Service- Pathfinder mentoring 6:30 p.m. Church Council 7:30 p.m.	Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.		
7 Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Confirmation Sunday	8 Girl Scouts meet 5:45 p.m.	9 Miriam Circle 9:30 a.m. Rebekah Circle @ Terrace Heights 2 p.m.	10 Soup Supper 5:30 p.m. Lenten Service- Pathfinder mentoring 6:30 p.m.	11 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	12	13
14 Youth serving breakfast 8–10 a.m. Palm Sunday Service & Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday School Sings Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m.	15 Sewing 8 a.m.	16	17 Holy Week	18 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service-First Com- munion 6:30 p.m.	19 Good Friday Service 6:30 p.m.	20
21 Easter Sunrise Service 7 a.m. Easter Morning Service 10 a.m. NO Sunday School Action News Deadline	22 Girl Scouts meet 5:45 p.m.	23	24 Pathfinders –learning 5:45 p.m.	25 Worship at CMH 10 a.m. Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	26	27
28 Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m.	29 Sewing 8 a.m.	30				

First Communion Maundy Thursday, April 18, 2019

Carter Betsinger
Leah Maddock
Tyler Stier
Trenton VanNyhuis
Bella Weisser



Confirmation

April 7, 2019



*The gifts of the
Holy Spirit strengthen you,
Making you a witness
Of Christ's love.
May you always live
Your faith with joy.*

*God's blessings to you
On your Confirmation Day!*

**Katie Helm
Averie Mounsdon
Luke Nessman
Kali Schoeck
Mara VanNyhuis
Carter Watnaas
Ethan Wiggins
Anna Woidyla**



www.shutterstock.com · 141877248

Offering

Attendance 2/24/19 51

Undesignated \$1,288

Initial \$10

Attendance 3/3/19

Undesignated \$5,844

Sunday School Offering \$3

Lent \$120

Ash Wednesday \$40

Palm Sunday \$50

Maundy Thursday \$50

Good Friday \$50

Easter Sunday \$300

Attendance 3/6/19 90

Attendance 3/10/19 No service

Attendance 3/17/19 97

Undesignated \$3,298

Sunday School \$2

Lent \$594

Ash Wednesday \$776

Youth Gathering \$60

Automatic Doors \$125

Thank you for your continued support; your giving is appreciated and needed at this time. We still have bills outstanding in March and our benevolences for 2019 have yet to be paid. It has been a rough winter both weather wise and financially for us. We even had to cancel service on March 10 due to weather. We are getting close to the summer months and we really need to go into this time on a positive financial note. Summer sees vacations and decrease in attendance and giving. Thank you from your Stewardship Committee.

Prayer Concerns

Stella Bender, Faye Maus, Ray Gabler, Dorene Mielke, Lil Or-tendahl

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: Nancy Muehlenhardt, Elaine Mattson, Marie Larson, Russ Hevern

Terrace Heights: LaRayne Johnson, Ruby Maus, Lorraine (Ivy) Nomeland, Bud & Madlyn Manders

Westview Assisted Living: Stella Bender, Virginia Chapman, Joyce Rossi

Out of Town

Alexandria:

Alex Assisted Living: Roy Juntunen

Knute Nelson: Altrude Daniels

Windmill Ponds: Delores Stephens

Harding, MN: David Jorgensen

Long Prairie: Ray Gabler, Ruth Sherman

Sauk Centre: Diane Maloney

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

PRAYER FOR HEALING

Lord, you created me.

My body is sick now and perhaps my soul too. Please heal me, renew me. Repair the body you had made. Refresh the soul you created for eternal existence. You alone know how to restore my health, for you created me. Make me whole again so that I may live my life for you.

Amen.

Osakis Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 427

Osakis, MN 56360

Osakis Lutheran Church

2019 Church Council

President—Paul Christensen

Past President— Jerry Wiggins

President Elect—Jessie Thornbloom

Secretary—Kathy Ryan

Treasurer—Nancy Exley

Church in Society—Dianne Zimmer

Financial Secretary—Cindy Christensen

Deacons— Wilma Triebenbach

Education—Melanie Stier

Trustees— Lil Ortendahl

Worship—Pat Converse/Shelly Triebenbach

Youth— Jill Ramey

Stewardship—Mike Curtis

Ex Officio—Pastor Richard Fitzer

Church Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday 9 a.m.—2 p.m.

Closed Friday

The deadline for the bulletin is
Thursday at 9 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.