

**Osakis Lutheran Church
Action News
December 2018**



*Edition #537
Vicki Hinrichs, Editor*

Sunday School this year is sponsoring "Adopt a Family" for Christmas. Select an ornament from the tree in the narthex, purchase the item and leave the unwrapped gift in the box provided. This sponsorship is through the United Way of Douglas and Pope County.



***Sunday School
Christmas Program
December 16th at
10 a.m.***

Youth Group Christmas cookies- \$5 dozen



Russian Tea Cakes
Monster Cookies
Chocolate Mint Cookies
Peanut Blossoms
Chocolate Chip Cookies
Ginger Snaps
Peanut Butter Ritz (dipped in almond bark)

Other Items:

Take and bake lasagna in big pan \$10
Smaller pan lasagna (for one/two people) \$6
Chicken Noodle Soup in a jar \$5
Brownies in a jar \$5

**All orders are due with payment by December 4th.
Checks payable to Osakis Youth Group**

Turn your order into the church office, cookie box in church narthex or mail to Osakis Lutheran Church.

*****Pick up date is Sunday December 16th at Osakis Lutheran Church 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. *****

Jill will deliver to those that live in the Assisted Living/Galeon, just add a note to the bottom of your order.

Thank you, the youth group appreciates your support!

Two youth from Osakis Lutheran have become Eagle Scouts!

Matthew Ramey on 11-18-18; Matt's project was the flag pole with landscaping at Park Osagi in Osakis.

Jason Wiggins on 11-15-18; Jason's project was repairing the east entrance of Osakis Lutheran Church.

Congratulations Matt and Jason!!!!!!



***Worship Christmas Eve
4 p.m. and 9 p.m.
Carols, Communion &
Candlelight***

Poinsettias are available to order to decorate our church for Christmas. They will be delivered to the church by Anderson Florist and you can take yours home after the Christmas Eve service.

Pixie 4 blooms \$6.39

Regular 6-8 blooms \$12.39

Large 8-12 blooms \$19.39

Color choices are red, white, and pink.

Please have your order in the church office by Sunday December 2nd along with payment. Please include details with your order if it is in

honor of someone or in memory of someone, size of plant, and color choice.



Rich Reflections

“Draw near”, is not a phrase we use much these days. Maybe it sounds like a dated expression from the days of town criers announcing the latest decrees, or newsstand proprietors hawking their magazines and the hottest headlines.

Yet, draw near is what many of us did with family and friends for Thanksgiving. It’s what we do in our homes as the cold of winter settles in.

Christmas reminds us how God has drawn near to us in Jesus, the Word made flesh who dwells among us. He’s the ultimate fulfillment of the promise of Immanuel—God with us—from the prophet Isaiah.

This Advent season “Draw Near” is the theme that will give focus to our worship; in scripture, song, and sermon. We are invited to draw near to:

Wonder
Truth
Justice
One Another
Love



From the introduction to our Advent Devotional:

If you listen closely, you just might hear the sun whispering, “Draw near, draw near,” to flowers below that straighten their spines and stretch their faces toward the light.

And like that light, which falls to the earth and covers us in a blanket of warmth, I see God leaning toward me, inviting my heart and beckoning my feet, leaning down like a potter to clay, a mother to a crib or a child to pray—Saying, “Child, my child, draw near to me. Draw near to truth and wonder and peace.”

For in my bones, I believe that in the beginning God came to me. And just like the sun, which day after day, invites the flowers to stand and change, if you listen closely, you just might hear God say to you, “Draw near, draw near.”

Waiting, as the Light draws near to us,

Pr. Rich Fitzer

A celebration of new life in Holy Baptism for Zoey Lee Thornbloom on November 25th. Her parents are Timothy and Jessica Thornbloom, her sponsors are Jennie Frank and Jossie Johnson.



Our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Betty Sayler. Betty passed away Monday, November 19, 2018. Her services were held in Villard on November 24. Betty was a member here at Osakis Lutheran for many years and had moved to Villard a few years ago.

With Heartfelt
Sympathy

Remember -

No matter how many Santas

You see in the mall

-Or how many cards

You tape to the wall

-Or how many branches

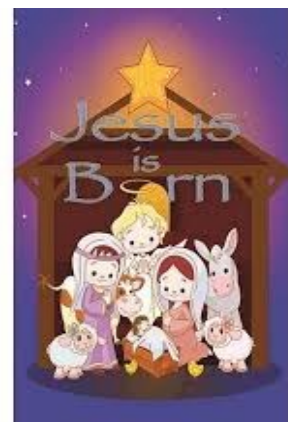
Are twinkling with lights

-Or how many cookies

Are frosted with white

Don't ever forget

Jesus is the reason for the season!



December Birthdays

- 2 Curt Kalpin, Hayden Malvin
4 Ray Gabler, Lavonne Peterson
5 Alexa Hoffarth, Chase Triebenbach
7 Kathy Ryan
8 Hadley Kugel, Ann Lillemoen, Karol Schlosser
9 Zoey Aramburu, Mandy Lien, Dorene Mielke
12 Lil Ortendahl
14 Mila Nosbush, Tyler Spanswick, Jason Weisser
16 Gabe Will
17 Sheila Watschke
19 Marie Cesafsky, Ethan Chalmers
20 Russell Hevern
21 Dave Bohm, Staci Morisch
22 Logan Betsinger, Tyler Vik
23 Jaxon Kreemer, Joanne Ranum
24 Kathy Gayken
25 Dan Szech
27 Cody Hansen
28 Carol Nelson
29 Luke Staloch
30 Barb Carlson, Katrina Hinnenkamp



Mission Action Moment

The Monday Quilters have ended their year of work, completing 8 quilts in November plus 3 brought in by Sheila and Carol.

Carol Kruschke, a summer quilter, reports from St. Stephen's Human Services in Minneapolis: as many as 1385 people need shelter each night. Shocking? On a good note, housing has been found for 437 people. We have sent quilts and winter clothing to that facility. How can you help?

Now finalized, is the listing of items delivered to Hensley Trucking by Don and Sheila on October 31. To Lutheran World Relief: 60 quilts, 81 personal care kits. To Global Health Ministries: 69 Newborn kits, 47 Hospice/Aids Kits, 640 bandages, 64 pillowcases, 38 sheets. Thanks to all who helped in any way!

If Christmas shopping is on your mind, take a trip to the Fellowship Hall and see the display of beautiful quilts that are for sale; all sizes, colors, and designs, in racks, on backs of pews, and hanging from the ceiling—AND "the price is right!"

A quilt was given to Zoe Lee Thornbloom on her baptism November 25th. A comfort quilt was given to Dorene Mielke.

Our first quilt-making day in 2019 will be Monday January 7—bring a friend!

May the blessings of good health, peace and joy be yours this season.

Rebekah Circle Minutes 11/13/18

Members present: Ruby Maus, LaRayne Johnson, Janice Frank, Sharon Kummrow, and Joyce Rossi, Marlys Benson.

Business: LaRayne opened the meeting with devotions “Do Not Fear” from Daily Guideposts.

I will ask Pastor Rich if he will lead the December Bible Lesson “Fear Not” on pages 22-27 in the December Gather magazine.

LaRayne will talk to Heidi about the Mitten Tree.

Action News was assembled by Ivy Nomeland, LaRayne Johnson, Ruby Maus, and Madlyn Manders.

LaRayne will check on purchasing flowers (poinsettias) for our homebound members.

Marlys will arrange staff gifts and get out invitations to our December meeting.

Bible Study:

We finished the chapters from A Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren. In January we will do the discussion questions on page 322 to finish our time with A Purpose Driven Life. For February Marlys will pick an article from the Gather magazine.

Marlys was the hostess for November. For December we will have our regular Christmas dessert potluck. LaRayne will bring a bowl of Glorified Rice. The rest of us will bring desserts of some kind or other.

Treasurer’s Report: We began the month with a balance of \$45.00. We added \$45.00 from our offering on 11/13. That gave us a balance of \$90.00. We added \$64.60 from our LSS box which gave us a total of \$153.60. I wrote check number 780 to OLCW (Barb Larson) for \$63.60 to add to their LSS contribution. That brought us back to \$90.00. Check number 781 was written for \$15.00 to the Sunday School for Christmas treats. We now have a balance of \$75.00.

Our Next Meeting will be on December 11th at 2:00 p.m. in the Terrace Heights Lunchroom.

Thanksgiving for Saints

Baptisms:

Hadley Noelle Kugel

Paisley Rae Adolphsen

Mila Marie Nosbush

Braxton Joseph Michael Redetzke

Kristen Rose Aramburu

Zoey Jane Aramburu

Deceased:

Wanda Lucille Norris

Donna Mae Emerson

Howard Eugene Berg

Joyce Alene Engstrand

Rulon Smith Jessop

Church in Society

This year for our Alternative Giving Campaign, we will be working with the congregation to help fund a clean water well for a community somewhere in the world. We will still have the catalogs for regular “Chick for a check” for those who prefer this choice.

Happy Holidays!

December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:45 a.m. Praise Team Practice 10 a.m. Worship w/ Communion & Sunday School 11 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship	3	4	5 5:45 p.m. Pathfinders—Learning	6 1 p.m. Bible Study at Terrace Heights 2 p.m. Church in Society	7	8
9 10 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 11 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 5 p.m. Church Council at Parsonage	10 5:45 p.m. Girl Scouts	11 9:30 a.m. Miriam Circle 2 p.m. Rebekah Circle @ Terrace Heights 7:30 p.m. Trustees meeting	12 5:45 p.m. Pathfinders—Learning 6 p.m. Rachel Circle at Barb Larson's home	13 1 p.m. Bible Study at Terrace Heights	14	15
16 10 a.m. Sunday School Christmas Program 11 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship	17	18	19 5:45 p.m. Pathfinders—Fellowship/Learning	20 10 a.m. Worship at CMH 1 p.m. Bible Study at Terrace Heights	21	22
23 10 a.m. Worship w/ Communion 11 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship Action News Deadline	24 4 p.m. Christmas Eve Service 9 p.m. Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas	26 No Pathfinders	27 1 p.m. Bible Study at Terrace Heights	28	29
30 10 a.m. Worship (Youth Band to play) 11 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship	31 New Year's Eve					

Rachel Circle will meet Wednesday December 12th at 6 p.m. at the home of Barb Larson. Please bring a gift for exchange and a Christmas treat to share.

Thanks to all who participated in the estimated giving cards. If the generous giving continues, we will be able to finish the year in the black. -Stewardship Committee

Osakis Lutheran Church Council Meeting, Wednesday, November 7, 2018 7:30 p.m.

Present: Brent Werven, Jerry Wiggins, Paul Christensen, Mike Curtis, Lil Ortendahl, Melanie Stier, Jill Ramey, Pastor Rich, Nancy Exley, Wilma Triebenbach, Diane Zimmel and Kathy Ryan.

President Jerry Wiggins called the meeting to order.

Pastor Rich gave devotions.

Highs and Lows

Paul Christensen motioned to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Mike Curtis 2nd. Approved.

Committee Reports:

1. Treasurer's report: Most bills for October are paid. Checkbook balance is \$1,309.00 as of October 31, 2018. October income was \$9,925.81 with expenses being \$10,400.81. Income to date is \$115,292.83 and expenses are \$114,344.14. Lil Ortendahl motioned to accept Treasurer's report. Wilma Triebenbach 2nd. Approved.

2. Trustees' report: Replacement window for fellowship hall is here. Installed this morning. Regarding the front entryway being fixed by Jason Wiggins, Lil suggested putting \$1,000 in his account to finish the job, but Jerry said there was still some money left. If more money is needed, Council will address that. Have been talking to Mr. Spanswick about the two pillars out front and about some kind of extension to get water away from the building. Requests for use of the church: Triebenbach benefit for lung cancer, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

3. Pastor report: Wedding Oct. 20th. Affirmation of Baptism October 28. Advent theme "Draw Near". Continuing Education – process theology. Middle School retreat at Luther Crest on November 18 – Pastor would like to attend so he is trying to find someone to take the service. Would have to postpone a baptism scheduled for that day.

4. Church in Society: November and December Alternative Giving Campaign will be asking the congregation to help fund a clean water well for a community somewhere in the world. All undesignated gifts will go towards this (\$2,500). We will still have catalogs available for "Chick for Check" selections.

5. Education: Next meeting November 28 at 7:30 p.m.

6. Youth: November 18, Chili Cook Off after church. Also, will begin Christmas Cookie sale, adding a few items this year to order in advance; chicken noodle soup, brownies in a jar and lasagna. Order pick up will be on December 16 with other baked goods available for purchase that day. Next meeting is after November 18.

7. Stewardship: Received 38 pledges so far with estimate giving totaling about \$67,00.00. Pledge cards are still available.

8. Worship: See Pastors' report.

New Business: Nancy passed out budgets turned in so far. Waiting on Worship and Personnel. Please have budgets with any changes in by December 17. Also Annual reports for Annual book. Our Annual meeting is January 27, 2018. Nancy said she would like to close out the Parament Fund (\$45.00 in it and change to National Youth Gathering Fund and this would be name change only on the account). The \$45 would be left in the account for future parament use. In addition, she would like to have a single memorial fund, keeping track within it what is designated and what isn't.

ELCA Investment Fund Demand Checking. Will get a check from the bank for the Addie Finseth CD upon written request from Council documented in minutes. Mike Curtis made a motion to terminate Certificate of Deposit #23981; asking that a check for those funds be made payable to the Osakis Lutheran Church. Jill Ramey 2nd. Approved. (copy of termination is attached)

Signers for the new account, ELCA Mission Investment Fund Demand Checking will be Paul Christensen, President Elect, Kathy Ryan, Council Secretary and Nancy Exley, Church Treasurer. Wilma Triebenbach made a motion to approve establishment of the new Mission Investment Fund Demand Checking with the check from the Addie Finseth CD and with those listed as signers. Jill Ramey 2nd. Approved.

New Bishop will be appointed June 7-9, 2019. We are invited to recommend up to three person. Will put this on the agenda for December.

Next meeting: Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the Parsonage. Bring appetizers.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Kathy Ryan, Council Secretary



www.shutterstock.com · 341677248

Offering

Attendance 10/28/18 **180**

Undesignated \$1,784

Attendance 11/4/18

Undesignated \$2,426

Sunday School \$1

Stoeckel Campership \$165

Joyce Engstrand Memorial to Monday
Quilters \$575

Attendance 11/11/18

Undesignated \$1,887.76

Sunday School \$5.01

Missionary Support \$50

Tech Fund \$65

Local Expenses \$100

Attendance 11/18/18

Undesignated \$3,656

Sunday School \$18.64

Thanksgiving \$60

National Youth Gathering \$80

Jason Wiggins Eagle Project \$100

October Income \$9,925.81

October Expenses \$10,400.81

YTD Income \$115,292.83

YTD Expenses \$114,344.14

Prayer Concerns

Stella Bender, Helen Bruder, Ray Gabler, Lil Ortendahl

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, Helen Bruder

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

2018 Church Council

President—Jerry Wiggins

Past President— Brent Werven

President Elect—Paul Christensen

Secretary—Kathy Ryan

Treasurer—Nancy Exley

Church in Society—Dianne Zimmer

Financial Secretary—Cindy Christensen

Deacons— Cindy Christensen

Education—Melanie Stier

Trustee— Lil Ortendahl

Worship—Pat Converse and 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.