

**Osakis Lutheran Church
Action News
December 2019**



*Edition #549
Vicki Hinrichs, Editor*

From the Youth Group: We are still taking orders for the cookie & lasagna bake sale until Dec. 8th. Pick up orders on Dec. 15 after 11 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

On December 14th the youth will be busy making the items at church.

We will be having a meeting on Dec. 8th after church to go through the orders. This fundraiser helps the youth go to camp and mission trips.

Items to Order this year:

Cookies \$6 per dozen

Russian Tea Cakes, Peanut Blossoms, Monster Cookies, Chocolate Mint Cookies, Peanut Butter Ritz (dipped in Almond Bark)

Take and bake Lasagna in big pans \$13 each

Smaller lasagna (for one to two persons) \$8 each

Order forms can be found in the church narthex, please include your payment with your order. Thank you for your support!

On Monday, Dec. 9th, the **Education Committee** will be hosting a FREE Christmas Activity Night at church from 3:00-7:30 p.m. for children ages 4 years old through 5th grade. Along with some adult volunteers, Pathfinder students will be helping to host activities, crafts, snacks, supper, a movie, and popcorn! This will be a wonderful opportunity for parents to get Christmas shopping done and for children to enjoy some fellowship with others! If you would like to register your children, please contact the church office (859-2350), Melanie Stier (mstier@osakis.k12.mn.us) or Jessie Thornbloom (jthornbloom@osakis.k12.mn.us). If you would like to donate food items, look for a sign up sheet in the narthex. If you would like to donate money towards buying the supplies, please signify that with the office or on your offering. Thank you!

Sunday School

What a busy and exciting time we are having in Sunday School! We are in full swing practicing for the Christmas program. "The 12 Signs of Christmas" will be December 15th during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Students should arrive at 8:45 for a large group practice. Children will be playing piano pieces before worship, so come early to get a good seat!

Our service project for Christmas is the United Way, Adopt a Family program. Our goal is to "adopt" 10 children. We have a tree full of ornaments that include gift ideas. It's wonderful to see all the donations coming in already. We will have Pathfinders help us box up the donations to be dropped off in mid-December.

Sunday School will not hold classes December 22, 29, or Jan. 5th. Classes will resume Jan. 12th.

Merry Christmas!



Church in Society has alternative gift giving options for this holiday season. We have animals and more from the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog, also known as checks for chicks. We will also have food shelf monetary envelopes and collecting nonperishable items which we will bring to the local food shelves. Please make all checks payable to Osakis Lutheran Church with a note on the memo line. We thank everyone in advance for contributing to both of these worthy causes. Happy Holiday to you all from CIS Committee!

Rich Reflections

Advent & Christmas greetings to you:

The first “Black Friday prices” started showing up the first weekend of November. And by the time you read this Black Friday will be done. So how can we enjoy the first “gift” of Christmas? I’m not talking about baby Jesus, but Advent itself.

Some of us have experienced Advent as a wonderful time of preparing both home and heart for the celebration of Jesus’ birth. Some have endured Advents of rigid abstaining from any celebrating, singing carols and sometimes even decorating. Others still, have little idea about Advent and what it’s for.

In my family of origin we always had a wreath with 4 candles on the dining table starting that first Sunday night in Advent. Every evening we would light the candle(s) adding one flame each week. Most nights, we would have some sort of devotion around the dinner table, with the lights turned low.

It wasn’t very involved: four taper candles, a styrofoam ring, and artificial greens. It didn’t take very long; I would guess most nights it only lasted about 5-10 minutes. But it was meaningful and memorable. It’s one of the things I can most clearly remember from my childhood.

You don’t have to be some religious scholar to have devotions. There are many options available:

- Christ in Our Home (available at Trinity)
 - Jesse Tree Devotions for Families (Augsburg)
 - Manger in the Mountains; Nestingen (Augsburg)
 - Come Lord Jesus; Briehl (Augsburg) 800-328-4648, or Amazon.com
- You can also find many online Advent devotions to read or download.

It doesn’t have to be one more thing to do, but let it be a time to take a deep breath, and allow a moment or two of quiet reflection during this busy season. And yes, do go and enjoy the concerts and other festivities.

Dates to remember:

Sun. Dec. 15 Sunday School Christmas program 10 am

Sun. Dec. 22 Advent/Christmas service of Song & Scripture 10 am

Christmas Eve 4:00 pm & 9:00 pm Candlelight

Wishing all God’s best to you this Advent & Christmas,
Pr. Rich

Christmas Flowers

Help adorn the Sanctuary with Poinsettias and/or Christmas floral arrangements this Christmas season. Donations can be made in honor of, or in memory of someone. Flowers can be brought to the office between December 15-December 23.

Please be sure to include who the flowers are in honor of or in memory of.



December Birthdays

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



Mission Action Moment

As of Monday November 25, the Quilters have "closed shop" for 2019.

Since last report six quilts have been completed: two from Rita, three from Sheila, and 10 fleece blankets. Two quilts were sold, five children received a quilts at their baptism and one was given to Ivy Nomencland.

Thanks to Sheila and Don who delivered quilts and kits to Hensley Trucking to be taken to the Twin Cities.

To LWR Headquarters: 71 quilts, 67 personal care kits

To Global Health Ministries: 63 Aide/Hospice Kits, 72 newborn kits, 430 bandages

We are grateful to the Hensleys for providing this service.

A summary of the year's activities and dispersment of funds will be available next month.

The quilters will be back at work on Monday, January 6, 2020. Join us!

We wish you all of the Blessings of Christmas. Remember the Reason for the Season!

Members Present: LaRayne Johnson, Ruby Maus, Janice Frank, Joyce Rossi, Madlyn Manders, and Marlys Benson

LaRayne opened the meeting with a selection from Prayers For Peace. It was the Buddhist Commands to avoid "The 10 Evils." Sounded very familiar!

LaRayne assembled the Action News for November. It was delivered to the Post Office by Deb.

Our Bible Study for the meeting was Naomi: Sadness Swallowed Up By Joy." Our **December Bible Study** will be "Hannah: From Misery to Praise." The reading for this lesson is 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11. I will ask Pastor Rich if he will do the lesson for us.

In December we have a "goodies" potluck. We will invite Pastor, Wilma, and Kristina to join us. **The meeting will be in the Terrace Heights Lunchroom at 2:00 p.m. on December 10th.**

We had a "Brown Bag" coffee hour scheduled, but the ladies from Our Redeemer invited us to the CMH lunchroom for PIE, so guess where we went!

From the Treasurer: We began the month with a balance of \$93.50. The bank had a balance of \$193.50, but check #787 to the OLCW had not been cashed, therefore, we did balance with bank. \$20.00 was collected in our offering and deposited. Our current balance is now \$113.50. \$31.60 was collected for LSS. I will deposit that and then write a \$31.60 check to OLCW to be added to their LSS donation.



December 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p>Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m.</p> <p>Worship/Sunday School 10 a.m.</p> <p>Coffee/Fellowship 11 a.m.</p> <p>Girl Scouts 3:45-6 p.m.</p>			<p>Pathfinders 5:45 p.m.</p> <p>Church Council meeting 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Bible Study @ Ter- race Heights 1 p.m.</p>		
<p>8</p> <p>Worship/Sunday School 10 a.m.</p> <p>Coffee/Fellowship 11 a.m.</p> <p>Youth Group meeting 11 a.m.</p> <p>Girl Scouts 3:45-6 p.m.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Christmas Activity Night 3-7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Rebekah Circle @ Terrace Heights 2 p.m.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Pathfinders 5:45 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Bible Study @ Ter- race Heights 1 p.m.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Worship 10 a.m.</p> <p>Sunday School Christmas Program</p> <p>Coffee/Fellowship 11 a.m.</p> <p>Cookie/Lasagna sale pick up 11 a.m.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Pathfinders 5:45 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Worship @ CMH 10 a.m.</p> <p>Bible Study @ Ter- race Heights 1 p.m.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Action News Deadline</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Worship 10 a.m.</p> <p>NO Sunday School</p> <p>Coffee/Fellowship 11 a.m.</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve Service 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Christmas Day</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Worship 10 a.m.</p> <p>NO Sunday School</p> <p>Coffee/Fellowship 11 a.m.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p>	 <p>JOY To the World</p>			

Osakis Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 6, 2019 @ 7:30 p.m.

Present: Mike Curtis, Paul Christensen, Jessie Thornbloom, Diane Zimmel, Lacey Sadlemyer, Kathy Ryan, Wilma Triebenbach, Nancy Exley, Jill Ramey, Lil Ortendahl, Pastor Rich, Melanie Stier, and Jerry Wiggins (via phone).

President Paul Christensen called the meeting to order.

Pastor Rich gave devotions.

Highs and Lows

Lil O motioned to accept minutes of the last meeting. Diane Z 2nd. Approved.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's report: Bills paid for October. \$29,649.49 includes all roofing materials and payroll. Benevolences for July, August, September & October to pay. All labor and material for roof are paid (\$29,621.95). Mike C made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Jill R 2nd. Approved. * Nancy mentioned there are still a few budgets for 2020 not in from committees. Due by Thanksgiving.

Pastor report: Mackenzie Staloch wedding. Schoeler (1) & Zimmel (2) Baptisms. 7 made affirmation of baptism. "Making sense of Scripture" Bible study at Terrace Heights. Russ Havern funeral. Worship committee: Advent/Christmas. Laptop for Pastor Rich & worship projector (old one was 7 years; to be used by treasurer).

Trustees' report: See attached* November 24th- approved use of the kitchen and fellowship hall to Shelly Triebenbach for girl scouts.

Education report: Next Meeting (written as "Wed. Oct. 13"; I think this is an error and November is supposed to be used*). Christmas program is December 15th. Confirmation banquet went well, but need to get numbers earlier for food preparations. MN Youth gathering- Pathfinders will attend overnight, November 23 & 24.

Church In Society: Alternative giving is emphasis for December. Campaign will run from Dec, 1 – 22, with catalogs available in the Narthex. Lil O asked if the emphasis for January and February could be on "back pack attacks" fund drive. Diane said absolutely.

Youth Report: November 24th chili cook off. Continuing orders for Christmas lasagna, cookie sales, etc. new youth group leader Lacey Sadlemyer.

New Business:

December meeting will be Dec. 4, 2019. This will be a regular council meeting to approve budgets. May have a Christmas potluck meeting on Jan 5.

Ed Committee planning a day care evening (3:15 – 7:30pm) for parents on Monday, December 9th for any preschool-5th graders in the community. There will be different activity stations, with help from confirmation kids, and supper will be provided. A note will be sent home with kids from school.

Reminder from Paul C to get committee minutes in the action newsletter. Paul also mentioned that we do a better job of providing committee job descriptions to the congregation, specifically new members. Maybe we should be sending "Time & Talent" sheets out again.

Nancy mentioned that the parking lot was worked on but there was still one hole left to be filled. Lil O confirmed precision roadway would return in the spring to finish the work. \$2950 paid to them for work done so far. \$900 left for seal coating in the spring.

Nancy received a bill for \$659 for Chase Triebenbach to attend a youth gathering. Will pay \$415 of it, as that is what was paid for other youth attending Luther Crest. Lil O made a motion. Wilma T 2nd. Approved.

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 7:30 P.M.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Kathy Ryan, Council Secretary



www.shutterstock.com · 141877248

Offering

Attendance 10/20/19 95

\$1388

Attendance 10/27/19 154

\$2287

Attendance 11/3/19 96

Undesignated \$2856.50

Parking Lot \$100

Memorials \$185

Attendance 11/10/19 45

Undesignated \$1,380

Parking Lot \$60

Local Bills \$100

Stripe Offering \$115

Attendance 11/17/19 79

Undesignated \$1118

Parking Lot \$100

Stripe Offering \$165

Income Oct. 2019 \$17,780.30

Expenses Oct. 2019 \$29,649.49

Income to date \$144,718.36

Expenses to date \$146,291.67

Benevolences for July-October need to be paid

Total roof repair expense \$29,621.95

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Russell Hevern who passed away on Tues. October 22. His funeral was held at Osakis Lutheran Church on Saturday October 26.

With Heartfelt
Sympathy

Prayer Concerns

Jeanne Jensen, Mike Kummrow, Shelly Enger-Triebebach, Cynthia Erickson, Greg Johnson, Nancy Robinson, Lois Kettle, and Grace Johnson.

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, Jeanne Jensen

Terrace Heights: LaRayne Johnson, Ruby Maus, Lorraine (Ivy) Nomeland, Bud & Madlyn Manders. Alice Sanders, Paul Jacobson

Westview Assisted Living: Stella Bender, Joyce Rossi, Audrey & Lowell Collins, Faye Maus

Out of Town

Alexandria: Knute Nelson: Altrude Daniels

Windmill Ponds: Delores Stephens

Harding, MN: David Jorgensen

Long Prairie: 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!

God is my healer.

No matter what my body is telling me,

I trust God to heal me and bless me with vibrant health and overflowing Joy.



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.