

**Osakis Lutheran Church
Action News
February 2020**



*Edition #551
Vicki Hinrichs, Editor*

**Help Wanted:
Church Secretary**

Please contact Pastor Rich for more information and to apply!

Hi from Church in Society!

The alternative giving in December was very good again this year! \$765 was given to the ELCA Good Gifts for all kinds of the options that were available to you. You should feel real good about helping our neighbors in need! Along with helping our local neighbors you have \$200 that was split between Douglas County Food Shelf and the Todd County Food Pantry PLUS many pounds of food was dispersed to the food shelves as well.

Thank You for your generous gift giving! February we will focus on the Backpacks for our local children who are facing food insecurities. Thank you!



Lent is a Christian annual period that starts on Ash Wednesday lasting for 40 days (not including Sundays) representing the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness. This 40 day period for Christians is a time to reflect, fast, and give penance in preparation for the resurrection of Christ Easter Sunday.

Ash Wednesday is February 26, 2020



Let today be the
day you give up
who you've been
for you who can
become.

— — — — —
Blessed Ash Wednesday

Rich Reflections

“Let there be light,” is God’s first command in the story of creation. Epiphany is the season of the light coming into the darkness, and the messiah being made know to the nations. In Matthew’s gospel Jesus is the interpreter of the Law of Moses and the fulfillment of messianic promises given through the prophets. And we are called to be the light of the world!

During these midwinter Sundays we are hearing portions of Jesus’ first public message in Matthew 5-7, the **Sermon on the Mount**. Of course, the first week, which we read on January 19, begins with The Beatitudes.” These familiar verses have given comfort to millions and tell us what will be most important in the life and ministry of Jesus: ³ “*Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*” ⁴ *Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.* ...⁹ *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*”

Then in the following weeks we’ll hear Jesus reinterpret the Law of Moses, in some incredibly revealing and challenging ways.

¹³ *You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.* ¹⁴ *You are the light of the world. ...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*”

²¹ *You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘Whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’* ²² *But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; ...* ²³ *So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you,* ²⁴ *leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister”*

³⁸ *You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’* ³⁹ *But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; ...* ⁴⁴ *But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,* ⁴⁵ *so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.”*

When you read these verses, you may be confronted by your own shortcomings and be aware of our own dis-ease with these words of our Lord. Insofar as that reminds us we have nowhere to turn and run, but to Jesus, that is good. Because, God doesn’t want us to be reduced to whimpering heap of fear and shame.

The letter of the Law produced easy excuses to get around caring for others, and the kind of guilt that only leads to despair. Jesus interprets of the spirit of the Law, which promotes wholeness and healing across and among whole communities. The spirit of the Law, as Jesus explains it, reveals how God responds to us, and how can be God’s light of the world.

See you in church as God’s light shines among and through us,

Pr. Rich Fitzer

February Birthdays

- 1 Grace Wells, Jesse Wells, Jerome Wiggins
- 3 Alan Hjulberg
- 5 Pat Converse
- 6 Paul Jacobson, Casey Nevala
- 7 Tucker Kreemer
- 10 Linda Kalpin
- 13 Shirley Laven
- 15 Wilma Triebenbach
- 16 Douglas Sherman, Rick Spanswick
- 17 Johnathan Betsinger, Justin Mickle, Lola Schueler, Emilia Sorensen
- 19 Pam Ellefson, Lorraine Nomeland
- 20 Gordon Lynch
- 22 Zoey Bjorstrom, Elizabeth Floer
- 24 Lyla Engfer, Russell Sandbakken
- 25 Rylee Mickle, Luke Nessman
- 26 Isaiah Neal
- 27 Peyton Garcia, Heather Neal
- 28 Michael Wagner



Mission Action Moment

January of the new year, got off to a slow start. Two quilts were completed on the 6th. Four quilts and five fleece blankets were brought in.

A quilt was given to Mike Kummrow who is in rehab in Bethany on the Lake. A quilt will be donated to the Alexandria Industries Ice fishing Tournament in February, a benefit for cancer research.

Looking ahead: Luther Crest will be having a quilt auction again! AT Luther Crest! More info later.

Weather permitting, our next sewing days will be February 10th and 24th. Please join us!

x x x x x x x x x x

GOD'S WILL... nothing more, nothing less, nothing ELSE!

Rebekah Circle 1/14/20

In attendance : Ruby Maus, Faye Maus, LaRayne Johnson, Madlyn Manders, and Marlys Benson

Business: LaRayne opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

The Action News was assembled by Ruby Maus, Madlyn Manders, LaRayne Johnson, and Loretta Becker. They were brought to the Post Office by Kathy LaFrenz.

LaRayne was hostess. She made a pineapple and cherry crumble which was really good. Marlys will be the hostess in February.

Our lesson of 1/14 was “Abigail: A Level-Headed Woman.” Our next lesson will be from Women of the Old Testament “ The Shunammite Woman: Taking the Initiative.”

For Next Time: Please bring your 2019 OLCW Handbook.

Our Next meeting will be on February 11, 2020 at the Terrace Heights Lunchroom. Time 2:00 p.m.

From the Treasurer: We began the month with a balance of \$76.50. We added \$13.00 in offerings so our balance is now \$89.50

Treasurer's Report for the year of 2019

Offering/Misc. Income only: \$176,815.37

Monies used from MIF for roof: \$15,505.15

Total \$192,320.52

Operating Expenses: \$184,933.79

(includes roof work expenses)

Highlights for 2019

The roof on the Fellowship Hall has been replaced

Church parking lot repaired

Church Secretary computer replaced \$625

Expenses listed above includes \$29,621.95 spent for roof replacement.

Also includes \$2,390 for parking lot repair.

We have purchased a new color copier. That cost if \$6,360 This bill will be paid in 2020 and will be taken from the Mission Investment Fund as per approval from Council.

February 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.	3	4	5 Pathfinders 5:45 p.m. Church Council 7:30 p.m.	6 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	7	8
9 Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.	10 Sewing 8 a.m.	11 Rebekah Circle @ Terrace Heights 2 p.m.	12 Pathfinders 5:45 p.m.	13 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	14 Valentine's Day	15
16 Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday School sings @ worship Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.	17	18	19	20 Worship @ CMH 10 a.m. Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m. <u>Action News Deadline</u>	21	22
23 Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.	24 Sewing 8 a.m.	25	26 Ash Wednesday	27 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	28	29



Osakis Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Sunday January 5, 2020 at 6 p.m.

Present: Nancy Exley, Shelly Triebenbach, Jerry Wiggins, Wilma Triebenbach, Brent Werven, Paul Christensen, Lil Ortendahl, Pastor Rich, Jessie Thornbloom, Melanie Stier, and Kathy Ryan.

President Paul Christensen called the meeting to order after our Christmas dinner in the fellowship hall.

Pastor Rich gave devotions.

Highs and Lows

Wilma T. made motion to accept minutes of the last meeting. Jerry W. 2nd. Approved.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's report: Income for December \$18,377.04 Bills paid \$15,280.84 All benevolences have been paid for 2019.. Assessment for JD#2 of \$2581.69 was paid. New copier was installed 12-20-19; invoice of \$6,360 was received 1-3-20. Will be paid from the Jung Fund. Our worker's compensation insurance bill is down to \$625 due in February. Waiting on personnel numbers (from Jerry W.) to finish budget for annual report and meeting January 26, 2020. Robin Curtis and Janet Johnson will do the treasurer's audit. Lil O. made a motion to accept the report. Brent W. 2nd. Approved.

Trustees' report: A.) Ice Jams continue to be a problem after the roof was replaced, especially on the southwest side. Committee is doing what they can by removing snow that builds up from the eaves (roof rake). B.) Repairs to the bathroom parsonage will begin in January. C.) Shoveling—some times still open for volunteers. Pastor mentioned that Mr. Schultz, who does the snow plowing, needs to do a better job clearing out the handicapped parking area. D.) Also, a problem with county or city plow trucks dragging lots of snow on our sidewalks. Maybe we could get them to take one more pass to remove that. E.) Monday Quilters have pledged \$200 (not \$1,000 as previously stated) towards starting a fund for an automatic door opener to be installed at the fellowship hall entrance. This fund was approved by the Council a few months ago. F.) Someone donated a rug and some new toys for the nursery; also, diapers and wipes in the main floor bathroom. A "thank you" will be sent by Lil.

Pastor's report: A.) Many hospital visits. B.) Lenten planning is starting C.) Pathfinders resuming D.) Thanks to Shelly Triebenbach and Youth Band for December 29th worship. E.) New wireless internet booster F.) Ad for Indeed.com is going up for office assistant. G.) Going to review new members and regular visitors.

Education report: On December 9th, there were 35 kids signed up for "Christmas Night Out", but 62 kids showed up the activity night! Went very well. Next meeting, January 15, 2020.

New Business: 1.) Inclement Weather Procedure—Pastor, President, and lead keyboard person will make decisions regarding whether or not to cancel a service because of bad weather. The decision needs to be made by 8 a.m. Sunday and it goes on Voice of Alexandria and Facebook. If there is a guest pastor involved, the decision needs to be made by 8 p.m. the night before. 2.) New Goals: A.) Communicate better; such as get committee report to Vicki for Action News. B.) Review and review new membership orientation procedures. C.) Update Constitution. 3. Budget—We will have an email vote by council members to approve the final budget for 2020 when Nancy completes it. 4.) Benevolences—Lil O. Mentioned that in the future she would like to have money budgeted for Back Pack Attack @ \$1,000

Next meeting February 5, 2020 @ 7:30 p.m..

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Kathy Ryan, Council Secretary



www.shutterstock.com · 141877248

Offering

Attendance 12/22/19 61

Undesignated \$925
 Initial \$25
 Thanksgiving \$10
 Church Rent \$25
 Tech Fund \$67

Attendance 12/24/19

4 p.m. 128; 9 p.m. 39

Undesignated \$261
 Food Shelf \$200
 Christmas \$1745
 ELCA Good Gifts \$765

Attendance 12/29/19 28

Undesignated \$820
 Christmas \$120
 Parking Lot \$1000

Attendance 1/5/20 51

Undesignated \$2229.25
 Initial \$115
 Christmas \$100
 Stoeckel Campership \$67
 Memorials \$200

Attendance 1/12/20 77

Undesignated \$998
 Sunday School \$6
 Sunday School Bibles \$100
 Refund from Confirmation \$46.99
 Back Pack Attack \$35

Prayer Concerns

Jeanne Jensen, Shelly Engfer-Triebebach, Greg Johnson, Cynthia Erickson, Nancy Robinson, Joyce Rossi, Lois Ketelle, Lowell Collins, 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

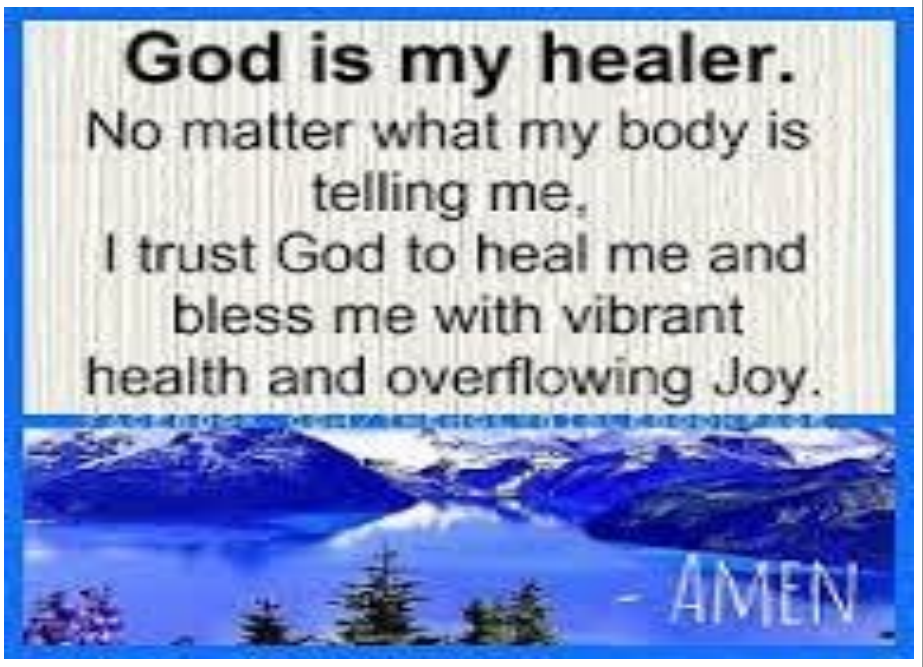
Windmill Ponds: Delores Stephens

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!



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.