



Youth

Thank you everyone that ordered and purchased cookies and lasagna this year! It was a great success!

We will be making our Super Bowl subs again this year. We will be having a youth group meeting on Jan. 13th from 2-4 p.m. at church, so more information will be available after the meeting. Keep an eye on the church website, church bulletin, Facebook (under Jill Ramey), or Facebook site "You know you're from Osakis".



Winter is here! The trustees are asking for help to handle snow around the church this winter. We need people to sign up to snow blow (your machine or ours in shed) areas close to building (SW corner) after shoveling 3 entrance approaches plus steps (if not done), plus clearing sidewalks. Snow needs to be moved away from the building so Robbie Schultz (contracted) can plow south and north parking lots for church and church activities. Plan for the weeks of Monday thru Sunday. You watch the weather, no one will call you. Sign up slip is on narthex table. For questions call 859-4426. Thank you for help with lawn care this past summer.

***Annual Meeting
Sunday
January 27th
11 a.m. following
worship
Please attend!***

Church in Society News

We would like to send a Thank You to everyone who gave to ELCA Good Gifts this season. We would like to give a special Thank You to our Sunday School Children who put their offerings of \$113 towards purchasing 1 goat, 2 roosters, 2 batches of bees, and 13 chicks! Way to go!

We now as a congregation have collected \$2772 towards a simple well and \$540 towards a number of specified animals, soup kitchens, and medical necessities.

A complete list will be available upon request once we complete the campaign.

Many thanks to everyone!!!!

January's focus for Church in Society is Life Issues. Life issues are common problems or a crisis that happens to people living their everyday lives. This leaves us with a wide array of issues; so please take a few moments to scan the bulletin board for information. We plan to have a speaker sometime in January. February is Addictions month, and March is Minnesota Food Shelf month. Please be thinking of that. We want to thank all the generous people who help us each month of the year. Happy New Year!! CIS

Rich Reflections

New Year is full of promise and hope, even in the darkness: physical & spiritual.

May be a time to closely examine life... zoom in like a microscope to look at self.

May be a time to do an overview... flyover like a satellite to see Jesus' big picture.

Starting with the Magi, **Epiphany** is about making God real & revealed to world

The Kingdom of God is present, abundant, freeing, healing, welcoming.

It's Making God real to those on the outside looking in, or oppressed.

Here's a summary of the Sundays of Epiphany in January & February:

Visit of Magi – represent all the gentiles or nations of the world. Outsiders welcomed

Gifts are for priest, king and burial. Their detour home subverts bad government

Baptism of Jesus – John “points” to Jesus, his baptism is by fire/Holy Spirit

“You are my beloved, I’m well pleased.” This signals that Jesus is a servant king

Wedding at Cana – couple saved from embarrassment, and gifted with abundance

This sign is more than a “miracle,” it points to the nature of the kingdom God.

Synagogue at Nazareth (A) – **Jesus’ mission statement** tells God’s jubilee for ALL!

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

...to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Synagogue at Nazareth (B) – Elijah went to Sidon & Syria; a widow, a leper—Gentiles

Jesus is taken to be thrown off a cliff, but he slips through the crowd & leaves.

Calling Disciples – Jesus calls Simon, (Andrew), James and John

–they were the second string of education and society, they leave and follow

[Followed in Luke by: leper & paralytic healed, Jesus calls Levi (tax collector/sinners),

questions about fasting & Sabbath, heals withered hand, 12 apostles named]

Sermon on the Plain (A) – many came to be healed, power went out from Jesus

Blessings to the poor, hungry & grieving; Woes to rich, full, laughing

Sermon on the Plain (B) – Love your enemies & do not judge. (pretty straight forward)

Jesus’ mission is our calling! Like we say in the ELCA: God’s work, Our hands. The church—God’s faithful people—exists for the sake of the world, not for our own satisfaction. We’re not a spiritual social club. We’re an open door, self-sacrificing movement of service-minded disciples.

See you in a new year of promise and hope,

Pr. Rich Fitzer

**Thank you to all who have sent cards, gifts,
and other gestures of kindness during Advent
and Christmas. Pastor Rich**

**Thank you all for your financial support this
past year to Osakis Lutheran Church. Nancy
Exley, Treasurer**

***We are in great need of ushers!
Please consider giving of your
time for this talent. Only requires
you to be here a few minutes earli-
er than service start time and a
welcoming smile. Sign up calen-
dar is on table in the narthex.***

January Birthdays

- 1 Lucas Zavadil, Brian Sorensen
- 2 Debra Mensen, Diane Zimmel
- 3 Dave Carlson, Brent Juntunen, Michael Kummrow
- 4 Betty Heuer
- 6 Stella Bender, Nichol Nessman, Michael Redetzke, Darcy Staloch
- 7 Dawn McNeal
- 9 Chrisob Sadlemyer, Kellie VanNyhuis
- 10 Mark Nessman, Richard Thornbloom
- 12 Delores Stephens
- 14 James Heuer, Douglas Lillemoen, Timothy Thornbloom
- 15 Robin Curtis
- 16 Gage Larson, Brandon Malvin
- 17 Joseph Garcia
- 18 Dave Dykema
- 19 Deborah Dowell, Hunter Johnson, Drew VanNyhuis
- 21 Ethan Abbott, Karen Williamson
- 22 Jesse Sorensen
- 23 Rick Hansen
- 24 Loren Ortendahl
- 25 Carole Davis, Breanna Larson
- 26 Barbara Berg
- 27 Hannah Redetzke
- 29 Marissa Hinrichs
- 31 Noah Johnson



Mission Action Moment

Monday Quilters scheduled for a December break, still found things that needed to be done. Sheila brought in 4 finished quilts, Lil took several items to Place of Hope including 30 pairs of mittens made by Bev.

Also 7 baby blankets were made for the local mitten tree, and donated were 13 adult quilts and 5 pairs of mittens. What service to the community that group of ladies provide! Truly the Christmas Spirit in action!

Remember, back to work January 7th. How about making a “New Year’s Resolution” to join us?

Final numbers and Barb’s treasurer’s report will appear in the WELCA handbook—watch for it.

Rebekah Circle Minutes 11/13/18

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

Guests: Marlys Ferris, Pastor Rich, Wilma Triebenbach, and Nancy Exley

Business: LaRayne opened the meeting with a devotion from The Joy of My Heart by Ann Graham Lotz. The reading was based on James 2: Trust and Obey.

The Sunshine fund of about \$40 was given to Heidi Cieplielinski to use for the Osakis Mitten Tree.

Marlys picked up and delivered small poinsettias for our homebound members.

The Action News for December was assembled by Madln Manders, Ruby Maus, Mary Hunter, Loretta Becker, and LaRayne Johnson.

We had our Christmas dessert potluck and it was great!

Marlys will be the hostess for January.

Our January lesson will be to finish the questions on page 322 of A Purpose Driven Life. Then Marlys will choose an article, which we will read and discuss, unless anyone else has one they would rather do, from the January Gather magazine, for our February lesson.

The Bible Study was conducted by Pastor Rich. It was from the December Gather Magazine entitled "Fear Not." **Thank you Pastor Rich for being our facilitator!**

Treasurer's Report: We began the month with a balance of \$45. We added \$45 from our offering on 11/16 which gave us a balance of \$90. \$63.30 was deposited on 11/16 from our LSS fund and check #780 for the same amount was written to the OLCW which brought our balance back to \$90. Check #781 was written to the Sunday School for \$15 along with three gift checks number 782,783,784 for \$15 each. Our balance was then \$30. Our offering on 12/14 of \$22 was added and now we have a balance of \$52. The bank statement for November balanced.

Thanks to all who shared Christmas Poinsettias!

In Loving Memory/Honor of:

Loved Ones

Parents, Linda Reeves & Brandon Williams

Augie Hinrichs

Arnold & Josephine Benson & Siblings

Wilbur Johnson

Harlan & Helen Christensen, Norman & Cleo Anderson

From

LaRayne Johnson

Nancy Exley

His Family

Charlotte Mhre & Marlys Benson

Johnson Family

Christensen Family

January 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
		<i>New Year's Day</i>	Church in Society 2 p.m. NO Pathfinders	Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.		
6 Praise Team Practice 8:45 am Worship 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. NO Sunday School	7 Sewing 8 a.m.	8 Miriam Circle 9:30 a.m. Rebekah Circle @ Terrace Heights 2 p.m.	9 Pathfinders—Learning 5:45 p.m. Rachel Circle 7 p.m. Church Council 7:30 p.m.	10 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	11	12
13 Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m.	14 Girl Scouts 5:45 p.m.	15	16 Pathfinders— Fellowship Time 5:45 p.m.	17 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	18	19
20 Praise Team Practice 8:45 am Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m.	21 Sewing 8 a.m.	22	23 Pathfinders—Learning 5:45 p.m.	24 Worship @ CMH 10 a.m. Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	25	26
27 Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Annual Meeting 11 a.m.	28 Girl Scouts 5:45 p.m.	29	30 Pathfinders—Learning 5:45 p.m.	31 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.		

Annual meeting Sunday January 27 at 11 a.m.

Osakis Lutheran Church Council Meeting, Wednesday, December 12, 2018 @ 7:00 P.M.

Present: Pat Converse, Wilma Triebenbach, Mike Curtis, Paul Christensen, Nancy Exley, Pastor Rich, Lil Ortendahl, Jill Ramey and Kathy Ryan.

We began with Christmas party appetizers and then singing Christmas songs at the Parsonage. Thank you to Pat Converse for playing the piano.

President Jerry Wiggins called the meeting to order.

Pastor Rich gave devotions.

Highs and Lows

Wilma Triebenbach motioned to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Paul Christensen 2nd. Approved.

Committee Reports:

1. Treasurer's report: Still have some benevolences to pay and monies to transfer from operating account to dedicated accounts. Checking account balance \$196.88 at the end of November. Mission Investment Fund Demand Account (Finseth CD \$27,386.92) was set up. Need signatures for 3 people to access online information about this account. (Paul Christensen, Kathy Ryan and Nancy Exley) Mike Curtis motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. Paul Christensen 2nd. Approved.

2. Trustees' report: Window for the Fellowship Hall has been installed, \$450.00. East entrance looks good with just some minor tweaking left. Need to replace some weather stripping around door. We had some water in the furnace room. Sump pump was not working; replaced. Regarding snow removal, we are currently looking for someone to replace the Schultz family, who can no longer do it. Might have to start a sign up sheet (like we do for lawncare in the summer) for snow removal/shoveling of sidewalks.

3. Pastor report: 1 Baptism (Garvin). Junior High Youth Gathering at Luther Crest was good. 9 kids attended. Advent season theme "Draw Near" continues. Bible Study at Terrace Heights.

4. Church in Society: Alternative Giving Campaign - \$540.00 in regular gifts and \$2,492.00 collected for a clean water well. (Our goal is \$2,500.00)

5. Youth: Pick up for ordered baked goods is this Sunday, December 16. There will be other baked good there to buy that day.

6. Worship: The organ was looked at and will be fixed soon. (some lights were also burned out and will be replaced at \$15.00 each). The bill should be less than \$300.00. Pastor Rich mentioned that he has a lead on a piano tuner who would be less expensive than our current person (from \$130 down to \$85).

New Business: We will be electing a new bishop at the Synod Assembly next June and can nominate up to three people. Pastor Rich would like to nominate Rachel Stout (Parkers Prairie). Nancy Exley read a letter from Diane Zimmer nominating Pastor Rich, as well. We could come up with more names in January. Mike Curtis made a motion to let Pastor Rich nominate another person and to submit those names. Pat Converse 2nd. Approved.

Review Budget for 2019: Changes: 1) strike "Luther Crest 2.0 Campaign"; 2) NW MN Synod/ELCA – change from \$5,500 to \$5,000; 3) Strike "South Sudan Relief"; 4) Strike "Osakis Ministerial Fund"; 5) Employers FICA Contribution – change from \$2,400 to \$1,500; 6) Pastors SS Allowance – change from \$3,404 to \$3,600; 7) Change "Youth Trips" to "National Youth Gathering"; 8) Workers Comp Insurance – change from \$800 to \$700. Paul Christensen made a motion to approve changes to budget, Jill Ramey 2nd. Approved. Final budget for 2019 (with changes) will be approved at the next meeting, January 9, 2019.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Kathy Ryan, Council Secretary



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Offering

Attendance 11/25/18 89

Undesignated \$1,391

Sunday School Offering \$12

Thanksgiving \$25

Stoeckel Campership \$80

Attendance 12/02/18 92

Undesignated \$2,910.75

Sunday School \$7

Tech Fund \$80

Thanksgiving \$100

Attendance 12/09/18 124

Undesignated \$2,414

Sunday School \$9

Tech Fund \$65

Luther Crest Campership \$150

Attendance 12/16/18 190

Undesignated \$1,847.77

Initial \$20

Stoeckel Campership \$65

ELCA Good Gifts 3,312.45

November Income \$10,022.41

November Expenses \$10,400.81

YTD Income \$125,315.24

YTD Expenses \$125,381.61

Prayer Concerns

Stella Bender, Helen Bruder, Ray Gabler, Dorene Mielke, 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.