

**Osakis Lutheran Church
Action News
March 2019**



*Edition #540
Vicki Hinrichs, Editor*

Ushers are needed for the month of March! Thanks!

Thank You to our diligent snow handlers - you are appreciated!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sign up sheet is in the narthex for soup and sandwiches for Wednesday Lenten suppers.

Youth

Our Youth Group meeting will be on March 10th. Meet at Alexandria bowling alley at 2 p.m.

Palm Sunday breakfast on April 14th. Sign up sheet will be up soon. Free will offering.

Jill Ramey, Youth Group leader



Church in Society

The March emphasis for your Church in Society Committee is Minnesota Food Share! You know what that means! We are collecting nonperishable food and funds to share between the Outreach food shelf in Alexandria and the Todd County food Bank in Long Prairie. Sometimes the stretch between paychecks is too long for some families to be able to put food on the table for the whole month. Help is needed! Osakis Lutheran church has, for the past 10 years, taken up the challenge to provide help by THE GENDER CHALLENGE. The containers, to collect funds, will be out on the table in the narthex beginning on March 3rd and ending on March 31st; one for the women and one for the men. For eight of the last ten years, the women have collected the most funds to help our friends and neighbors. Fellows....

Wednesday Soup and Sandwich suppers begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6th at 5:30 p.m.

Church service on Ash Wednesday and Wednesdays during Lent begins at 6:30 p.m.



Stewardship understands that this winter has been very cold and the last several weeks very snowy. However, offering funds have been down over the past couple months. This has made a direct impact on our ability to pay bills and benevolences. Your support is much appreciated and needed at this time. Thank you.
Your Stewardship Committee.

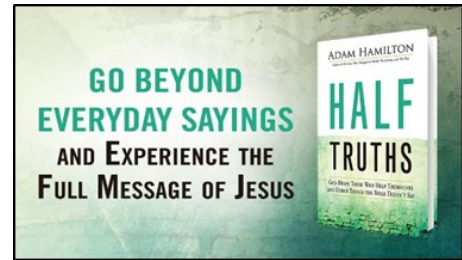
Rich Reflections

Old man winter has made his stay an intense one this winter. Even so, we're never quite sure how much we can believe about the weather forecasts. And so it is with certain phrases we hear or say in our lives of faith. "God helps those who help themselves" is one of the classics. We may not fully believe or deny them, kind of like some forecasts.

Sometimes, it's easier to repeat a clever phrase and count on it rather than taking a few moments to examine it. We may even become a little irritated when they are questioned. A few folks may actually be afraid that their faith will fall apart if "everything [doesn't] happen for a reason."

Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say, is a book and video series from Rev. Adam Hamilton that examine these half truths:

Everything Happens for a Reason
God Helps those who Help Themselves
God won't Give You More than You Can Handle
God Said it, I Believe it, That Settles It
Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin



We'll be exploring these five popular phrases among Christians during midweek Lenten worship, along with one more mystery phrase that you will get to help choose.

So why should we examine these half truths? Hamilton writes in his introduction,

"I think they can lead people to conclusions about God that not only are untrue but that may push some people away from God. Yes, there is some truth to be found in these 'truths' we'll explore. I invite you though to consider whether these truths are as Christian or as true as you may suppose. I hope that examining these and other half truths will lead you to the greater truths we find in Jesus Christ."

Prayer Around the Cross will once again be the reflective, music filled setting for exploring Half Truths. So, I hope you come out to enjoy some warm fellowship over hot and delicious homemade soups each Wednesday to help us move toward the new life of Lenten Spring. It's one of the best ways to get ourselves ready to fully celebrate the resurrection life of Easter.

--and that's a whole truth,

Pr. Rich Fitzer

Congratulations to Pastor Rich and Wendy who were married on New Year's Eve!

May God grant you all of life's blessings and love's joys!



March Birthdays

- 1 Remington Nevala
- 3 Nash Vik, Laura Wells
- 8 Larissa Hoffarth
- 11 Trey Morisch
- 13 Katie Helm, Hunter Infanger,
Jacqueline Ramey
- 15 Anna Wolf
- 16 Donald Watschke
- 18 Morrigan Reinke
- 21 Hailey-Rose Sherman, Denise
Waldvogel
- 22 Coraline Floer, Blake Johnson
- 23 Sarah Maddock
- 24 Amy Weisser
- 25 Carter Betsinger
- 27 Kimberly Floer
- 28 Bria Hoffarth, Matthew Staloch,
Judy Trulich
- 29 William Garvin, Kristine Nevala
- 31 Jacob Finnegan, Mason Grove



Mission Action Moment

In February, seven quilts were completed, three brought in by Sheila and one from Rita.

After a delivery of several baby quilts by Lil to “Life Connections” (formerly Birthright) in Alexandria, a thank you was received from volunteer, Suzanne Sudmeier. Stressing the importance of the need for baby items and the support for mothers, she writes: “Being able to choose a fresh and beautiful baby quilt makes them feel better about themselves...just today I had a young lady come in and tell me what a HUGE difference Life Connections has made in her life as she struggles, a mom of three, she was abandoned by the father of her children.” Any like new baby items would be greatly appreciated.

A service event at Galeon by the Pathfinders, added a number of items to our mission projects: 24 Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief, over 300 rolled bandages for Global Health Ministries PLUS six dozen cookies for CMH residents. Thanks, everyone.

Bringing cheer and well wishes, four quilts were delivered to Faye Maus, Wilma Triebenbach, Beverly Schultz, and Audrey Collins.

A special treat for lunch on the 4th—Loren’s Famous Hotdish! Thank you! - it was a hit!

Two more opportunities to be of service in Osakis Lutheran, the 4th and the 18th—MARCH right in and give us a hand.

Rebekah Circle Minutes 2/12/19

In Attendance: LaRayne Johnson, Ruby Maus, Janice Frank, and Marlys Benson

LaRayne opened the meeting with devotions from Prayers For Peace. The devotion she chose was written by a Chinese Philosopher from the 6th Century BCE.

We received thank you cards from Wilma and Nancy for their Christmas gifts.

The Action News was assembled by Mary Hunter, Madlyn Manders, Ruby Maus, and LaRayne Johnson.

For our Bible Study we discussed two articles in the January/February issue of Gather Magazine. They were "Come and See" and "Water and Life Abundant." For our next Bible Study we will discuss the articles in the March Gather Magazine.

Janice was the hostess. She served Valentine cupcakes and maple nut ice cream. Yummy!

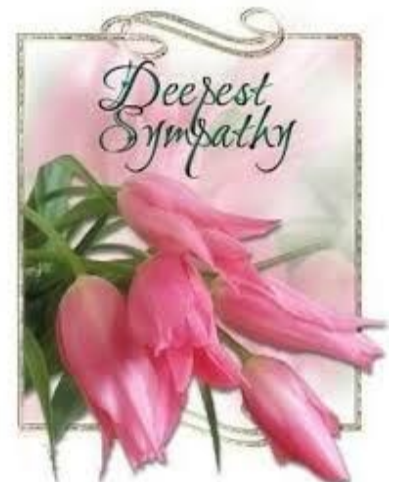
LaRayne will be the hostess for March.

Treasurer's Report:

The February statement came. The bank's balance was \$80.00 Check #784 is still out. When that was subtracted our balance was \$65.00 We added \$8.00 from our offerings, so our correct balance is \$73.00.

Our next meeting will be on March 12, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Terrace Heights in the lunchroom.

Condolences to the family of Helen R. Bruder. Helen passed away on January 24, 2019. A service was held at Patton-Schad Funeral Home in Sauk Centre on Saturday February 2, 2019. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers. She will be greatly missed.



March 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3 Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee 11 a.m.	4 Sewing 8 a.m.	5	6 CIS 2 p.m. Soup Supper 5:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service Pathfinder mentoring 6:30 p.m. Church Council 7:30 p.m.	7 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	8	9
10 Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee 11 a.m. Youth Bowling 2 p.m.	11 Girl Scouts meet 5:45 p.m.	12 Miriam Circle 9:30 a.m. Rebekah Circle 2 p.m. @ Terrace Heights	13 Soup Supper 5:30 p.m. Lenten Service - Pathfinder mentoring 6:30 p.m.	14 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	15	16
17 Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday School sings Fellowship & Coffee 11 a.m.	18 Sewing 8 a.m.	19	20 Soup Supper 5:30 p.m. Lenten Service - Pathfinder mentoring 6:30 p.m.	21 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	22	23
24 Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee 11 a.m. <u>Action News Deadline</u>	25 Girl Scouts meet 5:45 p.m.	26	27 Soup Supper 5:30 p.m. Lenten Service - Pathfinder mentoring 6:30 p.m.	28 Worship @ CMH 10 a.m. Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	29	30
31 Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee 11 a.m.						

Osakis Lutheran Church Council Meeting, Wednesday, February 6, 2019 @ 7:30 p.m.

Present: Paul Christensen, Jill Ramey, Wilma Triebenbach, Jessie Thornbloom, Nancy Exley, Jerry Wiggins, Pastor Rich, Lil Ortendahl and Kathy Ryan.

President Paul Christensen called the meeting to order.

Pastor Rich gave devotions.

Highs and Lows

Wilma Triebenbach motioned to accept minutes of last meeting. Jill Ramey 2nd. Approved.

Old business: Paul Christensen stated that with regard to the annual meeting last month, he felt it was the most successful one he had ever been to. Paul asked that all committee chairs get their monthly meeting minutes in to Nancy by the Wednesday before each monthly council meeting, along with any new business items you would like to discuss. Also, that he would like to have the agenda and packet available on the Sunday just prior to the monthly meeting so everyone would have an opportunity to review.

Committee Reports:

1. Treasurer's report: Have paid \$8,061.14 in bills and payroll. Still have \$3,260.81 in bills plus benevolences yet to pay. \$1,828.21 in checkbook as of 2/6/19. Nancy Exley had stated that a new account would be set up for the National Youth Gathering instead of changing name of any account. (Reminder next council meeting to make a formal motion to set up "National Youth Gathering savings account/naming signators.") (The bank requires this in the council minutes.)
2. Trustees' report: Have to call Excel regarding the light out back; it is not working. Our snowblower was picked up to be fixed. Sign up for snow removal is going well. Lil bought some new coat hangers. Monday Quilters have delayed starting fund to put in an automatic door opener on one of the doors between fellowship hall and sanctuary. Will be putting weather stripping on east entry door. Looking at possibly having Centerpoint Energy do a gas energy analysis of the church building (\$200). We are getting Workmans' Comp insurance through a new company, so our bill has gone down (\$609) per year. Lil ordered a laminated poster regarding federal and state employment laws, which will be posted somewhere in the church.
3. Pastor report: Dwayne Maus funeral. New member Sunday – possible dates March 3 or April 14. Lent mid-week theme is "Half Truths"; with mentoring following worship. 9th Grade Affirmation of Faith on April 7th. On call pastors while Pastor Rich is on vacation are Kathryn Rothman and John Martinson. Pat Ryan will lead the February 10th service. Bible study at Terrace Heights "I am saying of Jesus in John".
4. Church in Society: ELCA Good Gifts (for well/animals) totaled \$3,695.45. \$3,012.00 of that went for a well; \$683.45 for animals. January theme is Life Issues. Information is on the bulletin board. February theme is Addictions, with information on the bulletin board, in the church bulletin and Action News. March theme will be on the Food Shelf.
5. Youth: Received a \$200 donation for supplies to make superbowl subs; cleared \$386. Three kids plus 1 adult have signed up for the Chicago Mission Trip. Cost is \$700 per person. They will be doing fund raisers and hoping for some help from the Jung Fund if necessary. The trip is July 28 through August 7th.

New Business:

Musical Equipment – we need more music stands, microphone stands and microphones. Can we take money out of the choir fund or some memorial fund for this? We will look at cots and bring this up again at next meeting.

New wireless equipment – will probably have to do this in 2020. FYI.

Office computer – need to replace tower. Estimate from "Computer Specialists" - \$795 and from "Networks for Hire" - \$825. Also need external hard drive. There is about \$2,000 in the Technology Fund.

Do we want to be Chamber members? Paul will turn letter over to Church in Society

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Kathy Ryan, Council Secretary



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Offering

Attendance 1/27/19 71

Undesignated \$1,437

Tech Fund \$65

Stoeckel Campership \$65

Attendance 2/3/19 82

Undesignated \$2,494.25

Initial \$25

Sunday School Offering \$8

Tech Fund \$60

Attendance 2/10/19 102

Undesignated \$2,190

Sunday School \$8

Local Expenses \$100

Attendance 2/17/19 80

Undesignated \$1,487

Sunday School \$3

World Hunger \$138.35

2018 Income \$142,648.71

2018 Expenses \$143,833.15

January Income \$9,189.20

January Expenses \$13,168.81

In January have paid \$8,061.14 in bills. Carried over \$3,260.81 in bills and benevolences to February. Will pay as funds are available. Thank you.

Prayer Concerns

Stella Bender, Faye Maus, 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

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.