

Osakis Lutheran Church

Action News

March 2020



Wednesdays During Lent

Soup/Sandwich Meal

5:30–6:20 p.m.

Church Service 6:30 p.m.

Edition #552

Vicki Hinrichs, Editor

Sunday School: The readings and lessons that we read during the season of Epiphany helped reinforce the 10 Commandments and their meanings. During the Lenten season students will be participating in Lenten activities and listening to reading that will help us understand Jesus' journey to the cross. We will be preparing for Palm Sunday when we will sing for the congregation and make resurrection rolls.

Church in Society

Hi to everyone! Lots of things to report on! OLC has been busy reaching out and making a difference in the world today and beyond. Warm wishes to all of you.

A Thank You card has been received from Long Prairie Food Pantry in regards to the donations. The food shelves are very grateful for our contributions.

Another Thank You has been received from Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for our continuous support in Global Missions Funding. Chandran Paul Martin is the ELCA Missionary in India. We support him also with prayers in his work and ministry.

OBA, Operation Bootstrap Africa, has sent a new address card. They have worked alongside with Thrivent in Mpls. Thrivent build a new headquarters and OBA has then moved to 5701 Kentucky Ave. N #200 Minneapolis, MN 55428

Monetary gifts for Grace and her family has been forwarded to the Johnsons. A benefit for her will be held in Leaf Valley on Sunday March 8th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. We wish her and her family well!

Backpack donations have reached \$745 towards our \$1000 goal thus far. WAY TO GO! Envelopes will still be available thru February. We will put a final total in the March Sunday bulletins. Thank you!

Month of March focus, MN FOOD SHARE! Like in the past we will have the competition pails out for men and women to place their monetary gifts in. These gifts go equally to the both food shelves along with splitting the nonperishable foods and products. The men got their engraving on the Boot Trophy last year. So let's GO women! We will also have a "If you are stumped bucket" out if anyone would like to draw out a suggestion for a nonperishable item. (Only if you are stumped.)

April we will be talking about Habitat for Humanity. Stay tuned!

Thanks to everyone! CIS Committee

Council's Corner:

Hello, I'm Jessie Thornbloom, your current President. I am excited to take on this new role and, with the guidance and support from fellow council members and congregation members, make this a wonderful year of growth for OLC. Council members met for our first meeting of the 2020 year. We are excited to start working on our goals. One goal we want to get started on right away is to find new approaches to get more and existing members to be involved in the ministry and fellowship of our church. I know I personally would love to see more activities being hosted at our church and see more fellowship amongst members. Let's make OLC the "place to be" other than just on Sunday. We are brainstorming ideas for activities and new groups. If you have fellowship ideas or an idea for a group, please let any council member know! The Education Committee will be hosting a Bingo Night on March 29th from 3-5PM. Prizes (for adults and kids) can be won and root beer floats will be served. Please invite friends and family to join us in the first, of hopefully many, fellowship opportunities at OLC this year!



Great Prizes! Fun For All! Bring your friends/family!

Sunday March 29 3:00– 5:00 p.m.

Rootbeer Floats/Popcorn/Prizes (for kids & adults)

Osakis Lutheran Church

Free will donations will help with VBS camper registration fees.

Rich Reflections

Friends in Christ:

Lent

The first Sunday in "Lent" is March 1, the word itself and the time of the year mean "Spring." And none too soon I might add! It's time of new life, repentance (unburdening), and most of the season is focused on discipleship. What does it mean to live as a follower of Jesus? It's only when we get to Holy Week that focus turns to Christ's Passion

Lenten Suppers – and more!

Please take advantage of the opportunity—yes, opportunity to delight in Food, Fellowship, Fun on Wednesdays beginning at 5:30pm There will be soup (and surprises), ice breakers to interact with people, and some fun trivia.

Holden Prayer Around the Cross

Our worship will be a time of song and reflective prayer. It gives us a change of pace from the rest of the year; more deliberate and thoughtful, promoting an openness to God and care for others.



Midweek Messages:

"Lump" – What do we do when our past catches up with us?

"Shells" – Are we so busy that we miss out on what we're supposed to be doing?

"Dust" – What does God see in us? God invites us to draw near—to imitate God.

"Bullhorn" – Can we really love God without loving others?

"Sunday" – Do we get so wrapped up in religion, or our own ways, that we miss out on what's important to God?

"Matthew" – How do we deal with the pain we suffer when we lose someone we love?

Sunday Gospel readings in March

Temptation – Jesus experiences all the challenges and struggles of humans; receiving strength and reassurance from God's word.

Nicodemus – a religious insider comes to Jesus at night and realizes that he's been living in the dark.

Samaritan Woman – a despised, outcast member of a minority community becomes a life changing messenger of good news when she meets Jesus.

Man Born Blind – it turns out that those who thought sin caused this disability, are really the ones who lack true vision.

Jesus' friend Lazarus Dies – Mary & Martha seek comfort from Jesus while mourning their brother.

Lent: It can be the best time of year when we open ourselves to things practiced by the first Christians:

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." —Acts 2:42

See you in church,

Pr. Rich Fitzer

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
- 25 Carter Betsinger
- 27 Kimberly Floer
- 28 Bria Hoffarth, Matthew Staloch,
Judy Traulich, Jason Wiggins
- 29 William Garvin, Kristine Nevala
- 31 Jacob Finnegan, Mason Grove



Mission Action Moment

Two quilting days in February, six completed quilts and four quilts were brought in.

Two denim quilts were delivered to Love, Inc.—article on Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall.

A quilt was given to “Baby Grace” and two quilts were donated to the benefit for her.

Three opportunities for service in March: quilting on 2nd, 16th, and 30th.

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FAITH is taking the first step even if you can't see the staircase.

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Rebekah Circle Minutes 2/11/20

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

Business: LaRayne read a contemporary version of the 23rd Psalm from “Confessions of Faith” for our devotions.

Action News was assembled by Ruby Maus, Marlys Ferris, Ivy Nomeland, and LaRayne Johnson. They were brought to the Post Office by LeAnn Horton.

LaRayne attended the OLCW meeting. More information to follow.

Our lesson was the “Shunammite Woman” from Women of the Old Testament. Our next lesson will be “Esther: Captive in a Strange Land” from the same book. The Scripture reading are from Esther, chapters 2-4.

When we finish with the Women of the Old Testament we will bring the Women of the New Testament. Marlys will check out the Christian Book Distributers for those books.

Marlys was the hostess. We had Valentine cupcakes. **Our next meeting will be on March 10th at the Terrace Heights lunchroom at 2:00 p.m. We have no hostess fro March so it will be a brown bag to share.**

From the Treasurer: We began the month with a balance of \$89.50. We added \$65 to our account on 2/11/20. Our current balance is \$154.50.

Trustee Meeting Feb. 5, 2020

Attending: Chair Lil Ortendahl, Rick Harth, Joe Johnson Rick Hansen, Travis Redetzke Absent: Loren Ortendahl (excused), Pastor Rich

Review & Updates:

- 1 A lot of projects accomplished in 2019: a new roof, beginning repair of portion of south parking lot, purchased equipment (office computer, pastor computer, copier w/added color copies, 2 sump pumps, more LED bulbs in, improved flower bed.
- 2 Reviewed snow shoveling, blowing & plowing. Need to have volunteers get new snow away from building so Schultz can pick up and pile away from building. He does it early a.m. Thank you to volunteer helpers.
- 3 Status of parsonage bathroom repair—unknown (Pr.R.) Electrician hookup for new fan.
- 4 Still have SW & NC roof issues with large ice jams. Try to find solutions.
- 5 Cancelled contract with Alex Irrigation for lawn service. Will work with neighbor Adam & members help with mowing and trimming.
- 6 Repair for parsonage basement water seems to be correct (Joe J.)
- 7 Explained budget amount for church maintenance/repair (Copier pmt. in 2020).
- 8 Still want roof repair pictures for history book.

Brainstorming ideas for 2020 Needs or Wants:

1. Try to get electricity to church sign.
2. Follow up with Excel Energy on parking lot light.
3. Plan to clean fellowship floor and side rooms. (Lil to get some quotes on professional floor cleaning companies & rental equipment—cost of supplies and brushes. Options: do small rooms first (members move furniture out and professional do floors one day or one morning), 2nd session (members move large room furniture out our and professional do cleaning (afternoon or 2nd day). Floor cleaning consists of stripping, washing drying, apply 1 or 2 coats of nonslip wax and lots of buffing.
4. Look at cleaning out some small rooms, back stair and hallway, treat walls and ceilings and repaint for better usage.
5. Invite new members to the committee (2 names offered). Encourage a 2020 time and talent survey.

March 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.	Sewing 8 a.m.		Meal 5:30–6:20 p.m. Lent Service 6:30 p.m. Faith Mentoring 7:15 p.m.	Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.		Rebekah Circle @ Terrace Heights 2 p.m.	Meal 5:30–6:20 p.m. Lent Service 6:30 p.m. Faith Mentoring 7:15 p.m.	Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.	Sewing 8 a.m.	St. Patrick's Day	Meal 5:30–6:20 p.m. Lent Service 6:30 p.m. Faith Mentoring 7:15 p.m.	Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.			Meal 5:30–6:20 p.m. Lent Service 6:30 p.m. Faith Mentoring 7:15 p.m.	Worship @ CMH 10 a.m. Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.		
29	30	31				
Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m. 	Sewing 8 a.m.					

On Palm Sunday April 5, the Youth Group will have a breakfast before church. Sign up sheets will be in the narthex for items to be donated.



Our sympathy to the family and friends of Mike Kummrow who passed away on Thursday February 13, 2020. His funeral was held at Osakis Lutheran Church on Thursday February 20, 2020.

May you find comfort in treasured memories, peace in the support of dear friends and family, and healing through God's eternal love.

Osakis Lutheran Church Council Meeting Sunday, February 5, 2020

Present: Brent Werven, Lil Ortendahl, Diane Zimmel, Jessie Thornbloom, Melanie Stier, Pastor Rich, Paul Christensen, Nancy Exley and Kathy Ryan

President Jessie Thornbloom called the meeting to order. Pastor Rich gave devotions. Highs and lows.

Old Business:

Minutes from the last meeting: Lil Ortendahl made a correction in Treasurer's report-invoice for the copier of \$6,360.00 was to be paid from the Mission Investment Fund; not the Jung Fund. Paul Christensen made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting with this correction. Brent Werven 2nd. Approved. Added to unfinished items from the last meeting – to review our goals.

New Business:

Endowment Fund – a few years ago (2009) we tried to get an Endowment Fund plan approved (see attached). Not sure if it was completely approved by the congregation. Was it adopted and implemented? It is was, it should still be reviewed, possibly with input from an ELCA representative. Need to do further research and will be brought back to the council.

Paul Christensen stated that Rick Hanson would be interested in leading and starting up a Men's Group again (Bible Study, Fundraisers, etc.). Could be announced in church, the bulletin and Action News. Paul Christensen will follow up with Rick.

Back Pak Attack fundraiser with other churches at the Osakis Community Center on February 23rd from 11:00 – 1:00. This will be a Hot Dish Cookoff. The church has a policy of not borrowing things out but Lil Ortendahl would like to borrow chaffing dishes for this event. Brent Werven made a motion to allow this. Melanie Stier 2nd. Approved. Melanie mentioned that Qdoba may be willing to help with that. She will contact them.

Committee Reports:

Treasurers report: Total income for January \$9,288.33. Monies used from MIF for copier was \$6,360.00. Total then \$15,648.33. Total bills including payroll and copier was \$15,155.65. Net gain for January \$492.68. Paul Christensen motioned to accept Treasurers' report. Melanie Stier 2nd. Approved.

Pastors Report:

Down to final two choices for Office Assistant.

Mentoring preparation for Lent, grades 6-8

Mike Kummrow struggling.

Parsonage bathroom done except for exhaust fan.

Kitchen cabinet lighting finished.

Vacation February 17 – 23. Pastors are lined up for preaching and pastoral care.

Grace Johnson Fundraiser March 8 at Leaf Valley Mercantile.

Trustees report: see attached.

Education Report:

Confirmation Guide meeting February 12 at 7:30 p.m.

VBS fundraiser March 29 from 3:00- 5:00 p.m. Family Bingo Night with prizes.

First Communion class April 5th after church, with 5 kids receiving first communion April 9th at the Maundy Thursday service.

VBS set for July 13-16, 2020.

Next meeting Wednesday, March 11 at 7:15 p.m.

Melanie mentioned that she will be Education Chair for 2020.

Church in Society:

Back Pack Attack – so far we have collected 460.00 (our goal is \$1,000). Envelopes will remain available in the pews through February.

March is MN Food Share month. Will be collecting monetary gifts (competition between genders) and non-perishable foods (temple talk).

Grace Johnson Benefit March 8 from 11:00 – 2:00 at Leaf Valley Mercantile. Congregation can make donations (next few services before the benefit) if they do not plan to attend benefit.

Habitat for Humanity – April fundraiser. Thrivent has challenged churches in the area to raise \$1,500.00. Lil Ortendahl made a motion to participate in the challenge fundraiser. Paul Christensen 2nd. Approved.

Chat Time: Lil Ortendahl said that she would like to take about 10 minutes at each council meeting to come up with ideas to grow the church and to get more members to participate; time and talents sheets.



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Offering

Attendance 1/19/20 57

Undesignated \$2023.50
Initial \$25
Church Rent \$150
Tech Fund \$35
Stoeckel Campership \$35
National Youth Gathering \$35

Attendance 1/26/20 77

Undesignated \$1730
World Hunger \$37.59
Memorials \$75
Back Pack Attack \$215
National Youth Gathering \$70

Attendance 2/2/20 65

Undesignated \$2947.50
Sunday School Offering \$14.25
Initial \$25
Tech Fund \$25
Stoeckel Campership \$25
Undesignated Memorials \$50
National Youth Gathering \$25
Back Pack Attack \$245

Attendance 2/9/20 71

Undesignated \$1401.25
Luther Crest Campership \$100
Back Pack Attack \$285

Attendance 2/16/20 82

Undesignated \$1199
Sunday School Offering \$14
Back Pack Attack \$148

Prayer Concerns

Jeanne Jensen, Shelly Engfer-Triebebach, Cynthia Erickson, 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 Jenen

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

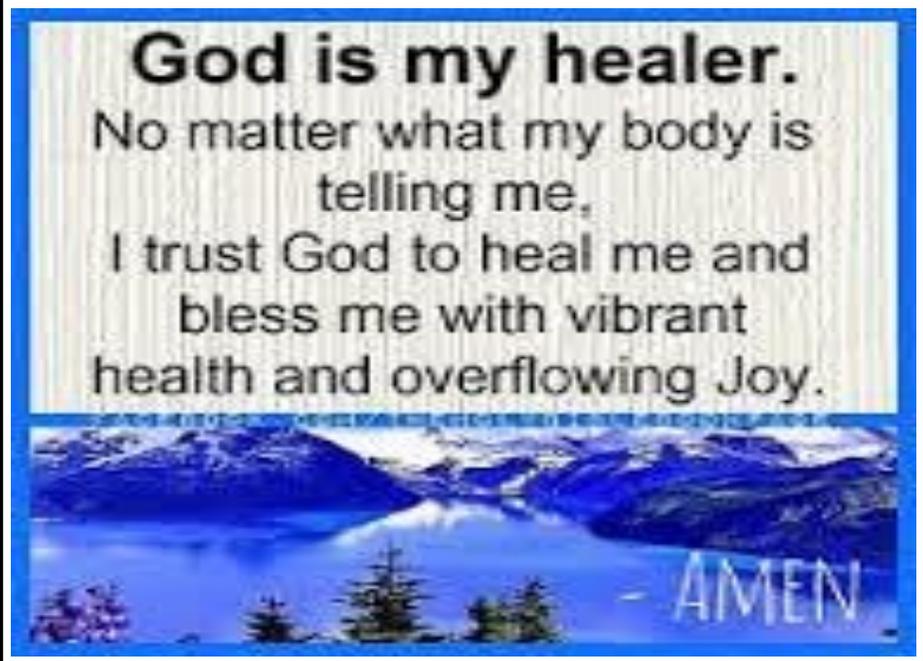
Windmill Ponds: Delores Stephens

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

2020 Church Council

President—Jessie Thornbloom

Past President— Paul Christensen

President Elect—Melanie Stier

Secretary—Kathy Ryan

Treasurer—Nancy Exley

Church in Society—Diane Zimmer

Financial Secretary—Cindy Christensen

Deacons— Wilma Triebenbach

Education—Melanie Stier

Trustees— Lil Ortendahl

Worship—Pat Converse/Shelly Triebenbach

Youth— Lacey Sadlemyer

Stewardship—Mike Curtis/Brent Werven

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.