

**Osakis Lutheran Church**  
**Action News**  
**May 2019**



*Edition #542*  
*Vicki Hinrichs, Editor*



**Vacation  
Bible School**

**Vacation Bible School will be Monday, July 8th through Thursday, July 11th. It will be from 8:45 a.m.—3:00 p.m. each day for students leaving kindergarten—6th grade. The cost is \$20 per student, with a \$40 family maximum. Registration forms will be out in May. Maddie Elliott from Luther Crest came for a visit to tell us more on Sunday, April 28th.**

Thank you to everyone for your generous offerings towards the food shelves! The men took the Boot Trophy with a whopping \$402, women came in at a generous amount of \$226.38, making a grand total of \$628.38 plus 35 lbs. of non-perishable items for our neighbors. How wonderful! Many thanks!

The month of May will be focusing on LSS (Lutheran Social Services. ‘We are neighbors helping neighbors’; Community, Health, Safety, Housing, and Prosperity through personalized support. They have blogs, events, and news at their website [www.lssmn.org](http://www.lssmn.org). You can also be involved. You might want to advocate, donate, or volunteer. The address is:

LSS of MN  
2485 Como Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
Phone 651-642-5990 or 800-582-5260

We will have information on the board in the narthex as well.

Thank you, CIS committee

*Action News deadline will now be the 20th of each month. Hopefully having a consistent date each month will help everyone in remembering when the deadline is so that the newsletter can be delivered to our church members in a timely manner.*

*If you have ideas of what you would like to see in the Action News, please contact Vicki. (320-760-4684) [vicmarissa@arvig.net](mailto:vicmarissa@arvig.net) Thanks! :)*



### Church in Society

We have a Save the Date for God's Work Our Hands. This will fall on Sunday September 8th, 2019. We can change the celebrating date if we wish to. We have participated a couple of times and now are looking for persons interested in helping to plan a service event. This wouldn't take up a lot of time just your willingness to gather and toss a few ideas around. The actual day of the event goes pretty quickly and it is fun to participate together! Please consider and all are welcomed! There are 2 of us at the moment but would love to have a couple more who are interested with this project.

Thank You, Diane

## Rich Reflections

“Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! But that’s a far cry from what the women were saying as they left the tomb that Sunday morning. According to Mark, they weren’t saying anything to anyone, for they were filled with terror. It’s kind of a strange way to end the story, isn’t it? It’s not exactly the ending I would have chosen. And it should be said, the other gospels don’t end this way.

But it does feel honest. It does ring true. I mean, can you blame them? Put yourself in their shoes. Imagine that you are visiting the grave of some-one you loved soon after they had died. And there, sitting on a tombstone is a stranger who tells you that your loved one is no longer here, that he or she has been raised from the dead and is now out there somewhere, living, breathing, walking and that someday soon you will turn the corner, and there he’ll be—ready to meet you. How would you respond? My gut tells me that I would do exactly what the women did. Death is final. We say that along with taxes, it is the one thing about life that is certain.

But what if it isn’t? What if death isn’t certain? What if it isn’t the end? This is the question that the women are left with as they run from that empty tomb—what can I be sure of now?

But wait, they were left with more than. They are left with a promise--“He has gone ahead of you to Galilee: there you will see him, just as he told you.”

So now the women, and we, need to make a choice--what do I believe? What do I put my trust in? Do I dare to believe that the dead can live again? This is the choice before them, and isn’t this the same choice before each of us this morning?

As uncomfortable as it is, I appreciate this gaping ending in Mark, because we are in the exact same situation as the women. We have a promise that has been made to us, that Jesus will meet us up ahead, fully alive, ready to embrace us and guide us on to new life. But we do not get to see him. Not yet. In this meantime, we are left to wonder, to hope, to believe.... or not believe.

The ending of the story is left unfinished, as wide open as the empty tomb, because the story isn’t really done. The tomb could not hold Jesus and neither could the Gospel of Mark.

The story continues in what happens next, in us, in our response to the news. Did Jesus rise again, really? Could it really be true that this death was not just any death, but full of power to take away your guilt and your shame and your fear? Full of power to free you and those I love from death’s terrible grip? Is it true? Your answer to that question will profoundly affect how you live this life.

Because if you believe it’s true, then you are free indeed to live fully in this moment, without fear, to forgive and to be forgiven. Then our deepest griefs, while very real, do not have the power to crush us. Then we can laugh at ourselves, we can be content to grow old, then we can love without reserve, even as we have been loved all along. If you believe it’s true, it makes all the difference in the world.

I am thinking today of a writing by Gerhard Frost, who was a pastor in Montana and North Dakota and then went on to become a well-loved professor at Luther Seminary. Throughout his life he had a habit of writing brief meditations on faith and life, some of them were only found after he died. This is one that sticks in my memory: He wrote,

*My bush burned this morning, burned and was not consumed, as I gathered with sisters and brothers in the faith for the ultimate act of defiance, a Christian burial service. My heart soared and sang as I joined in the demonstration and hurled the name of Jesus into the face of the enemy, Death. Never have I sensed so deeply the heaven-sent boldness of comforting one another “with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God” and taking to the streets again with other comforted ones under the defiant benediction. “The bush still burns.”*

The bush still burns, the savior lives, and we will too.

Happy Easter! Christ is risen, Alleluia!

Pr. Rich Fitzer

## May Birthdays

- 1 Kearney Frank, Emily Wolf
- 2 Kady Triebenbach
- 3 Curtis Holt
- 4 Aliyah Kreemer
- 5 Carter Watnaas
- 7 Gerard Johnson
- 8 Maddux Kapaun, Tammy O'Neil
- 9 Cindy Christensen
- 11 Danielle Kreemer
- 16 Jessica Johnson, Dallas Triebenbach
- 17 Gauge Johnson
- 19 Teresa Johnson, Abel Person
- 20 Roy Juntunen
- 22 Mara VanNyhuis
- 23 Mary Curtis, Madison Forsell
- 25 Rylee Muzik, Lynnette Swenstad
- 26 Nancy Taft
- 28 Cooper Nosbush
- 29 Ella Gilbert, Charlotte Myhre
- 30 Don Jensen



### **Mission Action Moment**

**April was a productive month for quilt-makers; Carol brought in 3 quilts, Sheila 1, and 7 were completed on the 2 work days—one more workday this month, the 29th.**

**All boxed projects and quilts will be taken to Hensley Tucking on the 24th for delivery to the Twin Cities area. Details with numbers next month.**

**We are grateful for those who work at home: cutting blocks, sorting and packaging blocks, assembling blocks into quilt tops, making diapers, hemming flannel receiving blankets, ripping seams from drapes, etc. Would you be able to help out in any of those ways? See Sheila or any of our regular workers for more info.**

**May quilt making days will be the 13th and TUESDAY 28th.**

**Our sympathy and prayers for Sheila in the loss of her sister.**

## Rebekah Circle Minutes 4/9/19

In Attendance: LaRayne Johnson, Ruby Maus, Faye Maus, Sharon Kummrow, Janice Frank, and Marlys Benson.

LaRayne opened the meeting with a prayer for peace written by a Muslim, a Jew, and a Christian.

The Action News was assembled by: Loretta Becker, Mary Hunter, Ruby Maus, Madlyn Manders, Marilyn Johnson, Ivy Nomeland, and LaRayne Johnson. Kathy LaFrenz delivered them to the Post Office.

Our Bible Study was the articles from the April Gather Magazine. Our May Bible Study will be the article in the May Gather Magazine. Bible Study guides for The Women of the Old Testament have been ordered and should to here to hand out at our May meeting.

Sharon was our April hostess. She provided a great selection of iced Easter cookies. Madlyn will be the hostess for May.

Treasurer's Report: We began the month with a balance of \$30. We added \$18 in offerings so our correct balance is \$48. The bank had a balance of \$162, however, check #784 for \$15 and check #785 to OLCW for \$117 were still out. We balance.

**Our next meeting is on Tuesday May 14th in the Terrace Heights lunchroom at 2:00 p.m.. Please come if you can.**

MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL  
JOY & PEACE  
AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY  
OVERFLOW  
WITH HOPE BY THE  
POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.  
ROMANS 15:13

# May 2019

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			<p>1</p> <p>CIS 2 p.m. Pathfinders ditch cleaning 5:45 p.m.  Church Council 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship &amp; Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee &amp; Fellowship 11 a.m.</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Pathfinders make up date for ditch cleaning 5:45 p.m.  Rachel Circle 7 p.m.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p><b>Mother's Day</b> Worship &amp; Sunday School 10 a.m. Last day of Sunday School Coffee &amp; Fellowship 11 a.m.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Sewing 8 a.m. Girl Scouts 5:45 p.m. Last meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Miriam Circle 9:30 a.m. Rebekah Circle 2 p.m. @ Terrace Heights</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Coffee &amp; Fellowship 11 a.m</p>	<p>20</p> <p><b><u>Action News Deadline</u></b></p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Worship at CMH 10 a.m.  Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Worship 10 a.m. Coffee &amp; Fellowship 11 a.m.</p>	<p>27</p> <p><b>Memorial Day</b> </p>	<p>28</p> <p>Sewing 8 a.m.</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m</p>	<p>31</p>	

Osakis Lutheran Church Council Meeting, Wednesday, April 3, 2019 @ 7:30 p.m.

Present: Melanie Stier, Paul Christensen, Mike Curtis, Jessie Thornbloom, Pastor Rich, Wilma Triebenbach, Diane Zimmer, Lil Ortendahl and Nancy Exley

President Paul Christensen called the meeting to order.

Pastor Rich gave devotions.

Highs and Lows

Mike Curtis motioned to accept minutes of last meeting. Diane Zimmer 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

Committee Reports:

1. Treasurer's report: Income for March was \$17,226.63 and paid bills were \$13,336.12. Will work to get the benevolences paid up to date. A new microwave needed to be purchased for the parsonage. Purchased from Cul-lens for \$359.00, paid from the Parsonage Checking Account. Still have \$1,036 in March bills to pay, April bills are at \$3,163.66 includes the current Portico bill. Benevolences are \$1,861.52. Lil Ortendahl made a motion to pay bills and approve Treasurers' report. Mike Curtis 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

2. Trustees' report: Next meeting scheduled for April 11 at 6:30 p.m. Checked into gas energy assessment audit but was told the church is a business and a business does not qualify for an audit. Thank you to Brent Werven, Jerry Wiggins and Boy Scouts for cleaning snow and ice from the roof. No water was found down in the basement.

3. Pastor report: Confirmation is April 7<sup>th</sup> and will continue to be in the fall after this confirmation. Confirmation banquet was March 31, 2019. Palm Sunday will be a dramatic reading. Two Easter services, 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service and 10:00 Easter Service. Holy Humor Sunday will be the Sunday after Easter Sunday. Looking to have new member Sunday on April 28.

4. Youth: Will be serving breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. Thank you to everyone for the great turn out for the Eagle Scout ceremony.

5. Stewardship: Mike Curtis stated that Vicki Hinrichs would like more from committees for Action News.

6. Church in Society: MN Food Share collected \$628.38, (\$402.00 men and \$226.38 women). God's Work Our Hands will be September 8, 2019. Would like to have work group made up for this event for planning.

7. Education report: Maddy Elliot of Luther Crest will be here on April 28 to talk on Vacation Bible School during service. VBS will be July 8<sup>th</sup> through July 11, 2019. Requested \$1,950.00 from Jung for this, motion made from Melanie Stier, seconded by Wilma Triebenbach and was approved. Sunday School is looking to do an Ice Cream Social on their last day of Sunday School which is May 19.

New Business:

Received quote for \$625.00 from Minnesota Computer for the purchase of a new computer for the office. Mike Curtis made a motion to approve the purchase, Melanie Stier seconded the motion. Approved. Will wait until after Easter for delivery and transfer of information.

Jessie Thornbloom brought up the possibility of having a "donation tab" on the church's website. This would be free to the donor. Jessie Thornbloom and Melanie Stier will meet with Stewardship on April 29 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss further.

Paul Christensen passed around a flyer on Building a Bigger Table Challenge through the NW MN Synod.

Jessie Thornbloom suggested a possible meal at church as part of fundraising.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 1 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Nancy Exley for Kathy Ryan, Council Secretary



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.