

Osakis Lutheran Church

Action News

November 2019



Edition #548

Vicki Hinrichs, Editor

From the Youth Group:

We will be having a chili cook off on Nov. 24th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. ,free will offering. Look for the sign up sheet in the back of the church. Please have the chili warm when you get to church.

On December 15th we will be having our bake sale with pick up from 11 a.m. to noon. Please get order sheets in by December 8th; we will be meeting after church to go over the items. On December 14th the youth will be busy making the items at church.

Items to Order this year:

Cookies \$6 per dozen

Russian Tea Cakes, Peanut Blossoms, Monster Cookies, Chocolate Mint Cookies, Peanut Butter Ritz (dipped in Almond Bark)

Take and bake Lasagna in big pans \$13 each

Smaller lasagna (for one to two persons) \$8 each

Order forms can be found in the church narthex, please include your payment with your order. Thank you for your support!

Operation Bootstrap Africa

There were 11 walkers and 5 “workers” for the OBA walk on October 5th. At this point we have collected \$5,921.11. Of that total, \$1,836.11 came from Osakis Lutheran Church members! Great job Osakis Lutheran! You truly do “go forth and feed the poor and hungry.” Blessings on you all!

Marlys Benson, OBA Representative

Church in Society

Hello from Church in Society Committee! Starting in December and through Dec. 22nd, Osakis Lutheran will be offering the Alternative Gift Giving with “Chicks for a Check.” Other animals out of the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog will be available too. We will be recognizing our local food shelves as well.

Once again, we would like to thank everyone for their gener-

*Give Thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.
Psalm 107:4*



3rd graders receiving Bibles:
Madison Stier, Abby Will,
Morgan Will, Hannah
Redetzke, Guy Steinbeisser,
Drew VanNyhuis, and Tucker
Kreemer.



Sunday School

Sunday School is in full swing! We have about 30 students registered and have anywhere from 10-20 students each week that come down for the message, a video, songs, and activities. The children decided last year they would like our weekly collections to help people around the world, so we decided to collect for Operation Bootstrap Africa. Our goal is to collect \$100 which will help purchase books and materials for the schools. This year we are also working on The Ten Commandments. We have a fun song that will help us remember all of God’s rules and what they mean. It’s hard to believe that in just a few weeks we will start working on the Christmas program! The children always look forward to singing, acting, and dressing up for our performance during worship. This year the Christmas program is December 15th during 10:00 a.m. worship. Children should arrive at 8:45 for practice. Blessings to all of you from Sunday School!

Rich Reflections

November brings the opportunity to remember and give thanks for much: All Saints' Day, Luther's birthday, Thanksgiving are among those things. This year there's an important anniversary to add to the list. November 9, 2019 is the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. However, to fully appreciate that event we must remember the 51 years that preceded it.

"Kristallnacht," the night of broken glass, November 9, 1938, was nearly a year before war. Jewish synagogues, homes, and schools were ransacked as attackers threw rocks through windows and started fires. Rioters destroyed 267 synagogues throughout Germany and Austria. Over 7,000 Jewish businesses were damaged or destroyed, and 30,000 Jewish men were arrested and incarcerated. 23 years later, 1961, the Berlin Wall was built dividing communist East from West.

The long road to 1989 began in 1981 as peace prayer evenings organized in Leipzig by St Nicholas Church pastor Christian Führer in response to Cold War arms race. Five years later, the Monday night gatherings were attracting just four people. "I was ready to give up but one of the people attending said, 'If we give up, then there is no hope anymore'" Pastor Führer remembered. "I recalled the parable of the mustard seed, the smallest of seeds can grow to provide shelter for many."

"People had been silenced, by fear and "the Stasi" secret police, we provided a space to discuss taboo topics," said Pastor Führer. In 1988, attendance grew – eight, 80, 100. The meetings got a shot in the arm September 4, 1989 when a group of young people emerged from the meeting to hold up a banner reading: "For an open life with free people." Pastor Führer was jubilant but nervous: would the meetings remain calm as the pressure continued to build? Each gathering began reciting the beatitudes, "Blessed are the poor, blessed are the meek, the merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers, persecuted..." The critical turning point came on October 7th, 1989. In East Berlin, East German leader Erich Honecker welcomed Mikhail Gorbachev for the 40th anniversary of the German Democratic Republic, a last hurrah for the ailing Politburo chief and his regime. In Leipzig, meanwhile, nervous policemen broke up the official anniversary events in the main shopping street with a baton charge. "They surrounded us, moving in to hit us and drag people away," said a tearful local woman Birgit Scheffel. "Old people and children were trampled. Things were really on a knife-edge. We all wondered whether the next demonstration would stay peaceful." Pastor Führer was jubilant but nervous: would the meetings remain calm as the pressure continued to build? "I

reminded people of the Sermon on the Mount – love your enemy – and hoped they would take this message of non-violence with them from church."

By Monday, October 9th, nearly all churches in Leipzig had joined the demonstrations. Outside, the atmosphere was charged. Stasi officers had been sent in as agents provocateurs to stir up trouble and justify a police intervention. Pastor Führer knew none of this but feared the worst as he emerged from the church.

As doors opened, 2,000 people leaving the sanctuary were welcomed by tens of thousands waiting outside with candles in their hands. An estimated 70,000 people marched around the main city square. Police and the military were everywhere. Pastor Führer said, "*Our fear was not as big as our faith. Two hands are needed to carry a candle and to protect it from wind. So you cannot carry stones or clubs at the same time.*"

Faces illuminated in candlelight, they chanted freedom: "Freiheit! Freiheit!" To their amazement, they finished a circle and returned, unhindered, to St. Nicholas. "I was so overwhelmed that I was incapable of thinking anything except that, because the police had not intervened, the GDR was no longer the same as it had been," remembered Pastor Führer. Later, he had his own theories about why things remained peaceful. The police were prepared for everything, a police officer told him later. Frantic calls from Leipzig to Berlin seeking permission to intervene went unanswered.

As the good pastor noted, "There were thousands in the churches. Hundreds of thousands in the streets around the city center. But not a single shattered window. This was the incredible witness to the power of non-violence. It was an evening in the spirit of our Lord Jesus for there were no winners and no defeated. There was just a tremendous feeling of relief."

It was later reported that Horst Sindemann, a member of the Central Committee of the GDR, summed up both the extensive preparations of the authorities as well as their inability to know how to respond to the events of that evening:

"We had planned everything. We were prepared for everything. But not for candles and prayers."

The prayers and peaceful demonstrations continued:

-October 16th – 120,000 (Honecker resigns on 18th)

-October 23rd – 320,000

-November 9th – the Berlin Wall came down without incident on the 51st anniversary of Kristallnacht. A bit of poetic and heavenly justice.

See you in church as we give thanks,
Pr. Rich

November Birthdays

- 1 Ariel Chalmers
- 2 Jeremy Floer, Gina Hoffarth
- 4 Dylan Hansen, Thomas Williamson
- 5 Kaden Gadbow
- 6 Laurie Dykema, Nathan Kulzer, Stephanie Person
- 8 Karen Gilsrud, Scott Nosbush, Christy Werder
- 9 Paul Sorum
- 11 Cody Helm, Isaac Schmidt, Brent Werven
- 12 Yvonne Christensen, Sue Sibell
- 13 Christine Werven, Nancy Woidyla
- 14 Brittany Johnson
- 15 Melissa Engfer, Thomas Finnegan
- 16 Daniel Finnegan
- 17 Stacy Betsinger, Jennifer Gilbert
- 19 Gail Holt, Jenna Nosbush, Guy Swenson
- 22 Nancy Exley
- 24 Matthew Stier
- 26 Marjorie Swor
- 27 Brian Ramey
- 30 Curtis Woidyla



Mission Action Moment

Since last report, seven quilts were completed. Bev brought in three fleece blankets and several pairs of mittens—soon that season!

Lil delivered ten baby blankets to “Life Connections”. LeAnn took two boxes of miscellaneous items to Someplace Safe Thrift Store and three quilts to Love, Inc, they were much appreciated. One quilt was sold.

Marge and Sue are furiously packing quilts for “Shipping Out Day” which is October 23rd.

We have one more work day in October, the 29th.

In November, our final two days of 2019 will be the 11th and 25th, then a RECESS!

Rebekah Circle Minutes 10/8/19

Present: Madlyn Manders, Ruby Maus, Faye Maus, Janice Frank, LaRayne Johnson, and Marlys Benson

LaRayne opened the meeting with a prayer from the book Prayer's For Peace. The prayer was from the Katha Upaishad.

The Action News was assembled by Mary Hunter, Marlys Ferris, Ivy Nomeland, Loretta Becker, Ruby Maus, and LaRayne Johnson. Kathy took them to the Post Office.

The money was removed from the Kits container to be replaced by the Sunshine Fund for the Mitten Tree. LaRayne will check with Heidi Ciepielinski to see about donating funds to the "Tree."

October 19th is the CMH Bazaar at the Community Center.

We assembled the card and cross (made by Don Watschke) gift bags for the Confirmands.

Marlys was the hostess. She stopped at Jacobs. Next month will be a "Brown Bag Event."

Our Bible Study was from our study guide, Women of the Old Testament. Our lesson was "Ruth" chapters one and two. Next time it will be "Ruth" chapters three and four.

From the Treasurer: We began the month with a balance of \$175 and we added \$18.50 on 10/8 which brought our total to \$193.50. I have written check #787 to Barb Larson, OLCW Treasurer for \$100. That leaves us with a total of \$93.50 The bank statement came. We balanced.

Kristian Roberts bio intro

I was born in Southern Illinois and moved to Minnesota as a teenager.

Fishing, baking and learning to sew are among the things I like to do; and especially reading. My favorite poet is E.A. Poe. Please do not ask me to pick a favorite work, as we would be here all day while I hemmed and hawed. My favorite poem is Annabel Lee (I have this memorized), but his short stories are so good I cannot pick one.

I do not have an absolutely favorite author, although I tend to lean towards the mystery genre writers. Ruth Ware, Kara Thomas, Karen McManus... Books! I just finished a book by Ruth Ware (excellent mystery writer) "The Death of Mrs. Westaway" in 1.5 days. It was THAT good. I will read on average 3-5 books per week. I love to read anything and everything pretty much, as long as it holds interest to me. I have a particular fascination with spooky history- I am a sucker for a good ghost story.

I am a certified Historian with degrees in History and Historical & Cultural Geography. My two thesis projects were "The Evolution of Insanity- 19th century Minnesota Asylums" (History) and "Prohibition in Stearns County" (Geography).

Winter is my favorite season, and I think snow is magical. I love playing good old fashioned games: Gin Rummy, Spades, Clue, Monopoly, Yahtzee. I am a HUGE St. Louis Cardinals, St. Louis Blues, Minnesota Wild and Minnesota Vikings fan. I do not root against teams as much as I root for my teams.

The holidays: I love, love, love the holidays! Thanksgiving, Christmas, Halloween, Easter, 4th of July... I love it when there is food and people and laughs and smiles. Extra points if the food is good!

Movies & TV: The Ranch, Workin' Moms, Murder She Wrote, The Waltons, Hallmark movies, anything spooky (not gory), sports; although I do not watch all that much TV. I typically have my nose in a book.

Family time is most important to me. ALWAYS. Family first no matter what. It's the Roberts' way. I live with my teenage son Aidan, my partner Tanner, two cats Garfield & Salem and a dog Hunter: ALL BOYS! I am of German, English-Wales decent; I have ties to England and hope to one day make my way there to explore. Tanner does too, so that's cool.

My job career has a wide variety of experiences. These include customer service, retail, agriculture, marketing, education, accounting, insurance, banking, human resources and many others. I am very excited to work as the OLC Secretary and am grateful to those who have helped me in this endeavor.

November 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri Sat

					1 <i>All Saints Day</i>	2
3 Praise Team Practice 8:45 p.m. Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.	4	5 <i>Election Day</i>	6 Church In Society 1 p.m. Pathfinders 5:45 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. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i> Sewing 8 a.m.	12 Rebekah Circle @ Terrace Heights 2 p.m.	13 Pathfinders 5:45 p.m.	14 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	15	16
17 Praise Team Practice 8:45 p.m. Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.	18	19	20 <i>Action News Deadline</i> Pathfinders 5:45 p.m.	21 Worship @ CMH 10 a.m. Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	22	23 Shine A Light on Lung Cancer 2 p.m.
24 Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m. Girl Scouts 3:45 p.m.	25 Sewing 8 a.m.	26	27 NO Pathfinders	28 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	29	30



To my friends here at Osakis Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the opportunity to be church secretary the past six years. It was a job I truly cherished and enjoyed; and I met so many great people. While the decision to retire was a tough one, I will say I do enjoy not working everyday. And as you know I did keep the Treasurer's position.

Thank you so much for the great send off! Your generous gift card to Jo-Ann Fabrics was a pleasant surprise; looking to put up a design wall in my sewing room and this will buy that. The cake in fellowship was very good. Just thank you all for everything. You are all great!

Nancy Exley

Osakis Lutheran Church Council Meeting October 2, 2019 7:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Diane Zimmel, Nancy Exley, Lil Ortendahl, Jill Ramey. Mike Curtis, Paul Christensen, Pastor Rich, Wilma Triebenbach, Jessie Thornbloom, Kathy Ryan

President Paul Christensen called the meeting to order. Pastor Rich gave devotions. Highs & Lows. Jill R motioned to accept minutes of the last meeting. Lil O seconded- approved.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Benevolences through June have been paid. Bills paid for September \$14, 678.74. David Koepp Roofing has been paid in full for labor. Waiting on bill from Build First Service. Will compare my invoices with theirs and then pay from Mission Investment fund. Wilma T made a motion to accept the report. Lil O seconded- approved.

Trusties Report: See Attached*

Parsonage Issues: Bathroom floor has water damage. Need to have a carpenter give us a bid to fix this. Mike Curtis made a motion to approve having the work done if the bid is less than \$2k. If more, we would need committee approval by email. To pay for it, we would first empty the parsonage fund and the rest would come from the Jung Fund. Diane Z seconded- approved.

SW Parking Lot: we have a quote from M.P. Roadway for \$3800.00, to be done this fall. (see copy of attached bid). Mike Curtis made a motion to go ahead with the work. We will ask for donations from the congregation first to pay for the project and the balance to come out of the Jung fund. Jessie T seconded- approved.

Girl Scouts use of the Church twice a month for one year- no conflict.

Pastor's Report:

September: Fall theological conference, Karoline Lewis from Lutheran Seminary, "Table as connection, brokenness, Blessing" Backpack attack for school (1200 bags packed)

October: 5 baptisms

3rd grade bibles (7)

Wedding October 9th (Staloch)

Affirmation of Baptism (7-9 grades)

Youth Report: R&A Roundup: collected \$250 for food items Next Meeting- October 13th

New Business:

Stripe Offering- online giving

Year end budgets- Nancy handed out forms. Please get started on them and have them ready by Nov. 6 (next committee meeting).

Reports for annual meeting- due December 16th.

December meeting- do we want to have a potluck meeting like last year? Table until next monthly meeting (Nov. 6)

Auditor report for annual meeting on Jan. 26, 2020- Robin Curtis and Janet Johnson.

Pastor Rich looking at new health insurance plan to include spouse. Will check on list and run it by the personnel committee (decision needs to be made in October)

Newsletter- Vicki Hinrichs, Editor of Action News, would like to remind everyone that the last day for submitting anything is the 20th of the month. Also, she doesn't feel like she should have to call/ solicit for the newsletter.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 6, 2019 – 7:30 P.M.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Kathy Ryan, Secretary for Church Council



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Offering

Attendance 9/22/19 90

Undesignated \$1,578

Stripe \$85

Attendance 9/29/19 87

Undesignated \$1,092

Sunday School \$15

Stoeckel Campership \$67

National Youth Gathering \$67

Operation Bootstrap \$50

Attendance 10/6/19 115

Undesignated \$3531

National Youth Gathering \$67

Attendance 10/13/19 115

Undesignated \$6,290.50

Income to date \$126,938.06
(includes money from the roof fund)

Expenses to date \$116,642.18
(does NOT include benevolences from July -September)

In Holy Baptism on October 20th, we welcomed into the Body of Christ three children of God:

Sawyer and Harper Berberich, children of Sabrina and Todd Berberich

Lola Schueler, daughter of Amanda and Jason Schueler.

Congratulations to Mackenzie Staloch and Kyle Petermier who were married at Osakis Lutheran Church on October 19th.

Prayer Concerns

Jeanne Jensen, Mike Kummrow, Shelly Enger-Triebebach, Cynthia Erickson, Greg 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

God is my healer.

No matter what my body is telling me,

I trust God to heal me and bless me with vibrant health and overflowing Joy.



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.