

**Osakis Lutheran Church  
Action News  
September 2019**



*Edition #546  
Vicki Hinrichs, Editor*

**Sunday School Rally  
Day/Backpack Blessing  
September 15th**



***Youth Group News:***

***Chicago mission trip—the kids had a lot of fun; just wished they would have had more service projects.***

***Our first meeting is going to be on October 13th at 3 p.m. It's our big time to plan fundraising and try to do different things this year.***

***Looking for someone to take over for me.***

***Anyone can join our youth group if you are 4th grade and up. It's nice because if you want to go to camp the youth group will help pay some of the cost of camp. You will learn more when you join us.***

***Call or email me with questions:***

***320-766-3908  
jillramey2@gmail.com***

***Thanks! Jill Ramey, youth group leader***

**Pathfinders**

***Parent's Orientation & Ditch Cleaning***

***Wednesday September 11th***

***5:45 p.m.***

***Church in Society***

Hear All About It!

Yes! Sunday September 8th and 15th we will be introducing our plans for OLC's Fun Service Day with God's Work Our Hands!

Sunday September 22nd there will be a condensed Worship Service starting at 10 a.m. Then we will breakout into our service projects and then meet back at noon in the Fellowship Hall for Tacos in a Bag!

Projects will be available for all ages and abilities. It will be fun to gather together!

October's focus will be on ELCA Global Missions. The Bulletin Board will have some real good info and will also highlight our mission support on Chandran Paul Martin and his works.

Please take a moment to view it before or after church services.

Thank you, CIS Committee

In addition I would like to Thank and Recognize the wonderful group of women and Pastor Rich for all their efforts in bringing this Awesome project of God's Work Our Hands together. Our group consisted of:

Marlys, Wendy, Char, LaRayne, Barb B., Rayna, Diane, and Pastor Rich.

## Rich Reflections

I'm re-reading the book "*Small Miracles*" by Yitta Halberstam & Judith Leventhal. Many of the stories are powerful reminders of the importance, and the need, to see the full humanity in the face of every single person on earth. (The following is an excerpt, pp.81-83)

In the 1930s, Rabbi Samuel Shapira, of the Polish village of Prochnik, was in the habit of taking long, walks into the countryside. The rabbi, who was known for his warm, loving and compassionate ways, always made a point of greeting everyone whose path he crossed -- Jew and non-Jew alike -- and, adhering to a Talmudic dictum, always tried to greet them first.

One of the people he regularly greeted on his daily walks was Herr Mueller, whose farm lay on the outskirts of the town. Every morning, Rabbi Shapira would pass the farmer as he diligently worked in his fields. The rabbi would nod his head and expansively boom in a hearty voice, 'Good morning, Herr Mueller!'

When the rabbi started his morning walks and had begun greeting Herr Mueller, the farmer had turned away in stony silence. Relations between Jews and gentiles in this village were not particularly good, and friendships were rare. But Rabbi Shapira was not discouraged. Day after day, he would greet the silent Herr Mueller with a hearty hello, until, finally convinced of the rabbi's sincerity, the farmer began returning the greeting with a tip of his hat and a hint of a smile.

This routine went on for many years. Every morning Rabbi Shapira would call out, 'Good Morning, Herr Mueller!' And every morning Herr Mueller would tip his hat and yell back, 'Good Morning, Herr Rabiner!' This scenario stopped when the Nazis came.

Rabbi Shapira and his family, together with all the other Jewish residents of the village, were shipped to a concentration camp. Rabbi Shapira was transferred from one concentration camp to the next until he reached his final destination point: Auschwitz.

As he got off the train, he was ordered to join the line where selection was taking place. He saw from a distance the camp commandant's baton swing left, swing right. He knew that left signified certain death, but right bought time and possible survival.

His heart palpitating, he drew closer to the commandant as the line surged forward. Soon it would be his turn. What would be the decree? Left or right?

He was one person away from the man in charge of the selection, the man whose arbitrary decision could send him into the flames. What kind of man was this commandant, a man who could so easily send thousands of people a day to their

deaths?

Despite his own fear, he looked curiously, almost boldly into the face of the commandant as his turn was called. At that moment, the man turned to glance at him, and their eyes locked. Rabbi Shapira approached the commandant and said quietly, 'Good morning, Herr Mueller!' Herr Mueller's eyes, cold and unfathomable, twitched for a fraction of a second. 'Good morning, Herr Rabiner!' he answered, also very quietly.

And then he swung his baton forward. "Recht!" he shouted with a barely perceptible nod. "Right!" To...life!

---

In this day and age, people from many points of view try to demonize those who look, sound, act, behave, think, believe, love, dress or vote differently than they do. And there's literally a tiny part of our brain that judges (thinks in a nanosecond), based on past experiences, every person and situation we encounter. What once kept us safe in primitive human history, now can cause us to write others off without getting to know them.

From the beginning to the end of the Bible, it is clearly God's intent to bless, gather, and forgive all people. [Genesis 12:3, Isaiah 25:6-7, Mark 3:28, John 1:4, Acts 2:39, Romans 6:10, Hebrews 10:10, Revelation 15:4] So if it's God's goal to reconcile (makes friends) with all people, maybe it should be our goal too!

Mark Twain wrote in his book "*Innocents Abroad*", "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime."

Maybe you won't get to travel the world, but you can read, watch, or listen to those who have. And the more you do, the more you'll realize that, *you will never look into the eyes of someone God does not love.*

Or as Jesus put it, "Whatever you do (say, or think) to least of these my brothers and sisters, you have done it to me." Jesus really intends this to be an honor and a privilege.

See you around in this "God so loved world",  
Pr. Rich

## September Birthdays

- 2 Cassie Halbur  
7 Chad Redetzke, Richard Steinbeisser  
9 Anna Woidyla  
10 Makayla Finnegan  
11 Julie Strelow, Katelynn Strelow  
12 Scott Triebenbach  
14 Aria Kugel  
15 Rob Engfer, Anthony Garcia, James Gilbert, Shari Laven  
17 Joanne Eason, Tonya Malvin  
19 Isaac Maddock, Averie Mounsdon  
20 Jason Kreemer, Ryan Maddock  
22 Anthony Strelow  
24 Rick Harth, Isaac Infanger, Bradley Strelow  
26 Arlene Ludwig, John Ramey, Julie Schoeck  
28 Dean Johnsen, Leroy Manders  
30 Chris Grove, Penny Miller, Brooklyn Vik



### **Mission Action Moment**

**The Monday Quilters were very busy in August, 21 quilts were completed on the two work days. Several baby-size fleece blankets were made: 17 by Sheila and three by Bev. Sheila also completed two quilts.**

**Carol Kruschke delivered a quilt and several pairs of jeans to the St. Stephens Ministry in Minneapolis.**

**Three quilts and two blankets were sold and a quilt was delivered to Jeanne Jensen, now a resident of Community Memorial Home.**

**How dedicated are these Monday Quilters? One who hemmed quilts on August 5th was working with a broken finger—now that's dedication!**

**To celebrate our accomplishments, we treated ourselves to lunch at AJ's. We do that occasionally as a "perk" that goes with the job.**

**Because the first sewing day in September is Labor Day, we'll be working on Tuesday the 3rd, also the 16th and the 30th. Mark your calendars!**

**\*Thanks to Matt for helping—come again!**

## **Rebekah Circle Minutes 8/13/19**

Members Present: Janice Frank, LaRayne Johnson, Ruby Maus, Joyce Rossi, Madlyn Manders, and Marlys Benson

LaRayne opened the meeting with a reading from Jesus Calling by Sarah Young.

The CMH birthday party went well. LaRayne was the Card Bingo caller.

Action News was assembled by Ruby Maus, Madlyn Manders, Loretta Becker, Ivy Nomeland, and LaRayne Johnson. They were taken to the Post Office by Deb.

LaRayne got in touch with Sharon Kummrow who said Mike's condition was up and down. They are still at their son Larry's. Her phone number is 320-815-8737.

Stella Bender is back in her apartment after a stay in the hospital.

Today was our ice cream social. There were many different toppings, cake, bars, cookies, and coffee. It was great!

Our September hostess is Madlyn.

Our Bible Study today was "Mariam." A lively discussion ensued! Our next Bible Study in "Rahab." She should be an interesting discussion.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday September 10th at 2:00 p.m. in the Terrace Heights lunchroom.

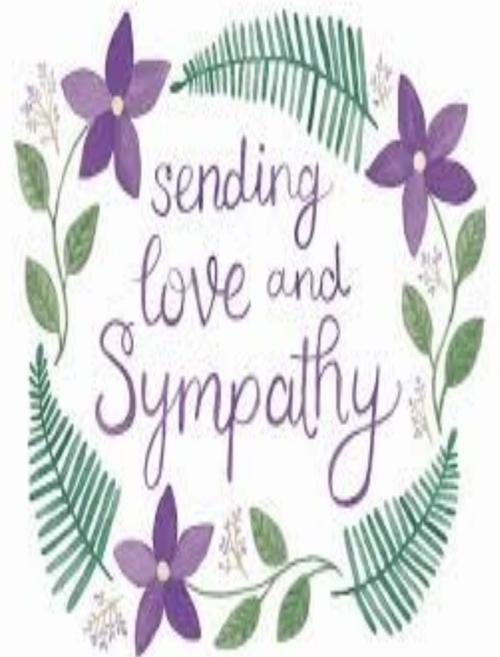
Treasurer's Report:

We began the month with a balance of \$104.00 The amount of \$15.00 from lost check #784 was added back in so our balance was \$119.00. We balanced with the bank \$16.00 in offerings was deposited on 8/13 so our balance is now \$135.00

***Our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of these church members who have recently passed away.***

***Marie Cesafsky passed away on Wednesday, July 26, 2019.***

***May there be comfort in knowing that someone so special will never be forgotten.***



# September 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship w/communion 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m.	<b>Labor Day</b>	Sewing 8 a.m.	Church in Society 1 p.m. Church Council 7:30 p.m.	Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.		
8 Worship 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m.	9	10 Rebekah Circle @ Terrace Heights 2 p.m.	11 Pathfinders Orientation & Ditch Cleaning 5:45 p.m.	12 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	13	14
15 Praise Team Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. <b>Sunday School Rally Sunday &amp; Blessing of Backpacks</b> <b>Operation Bootstrap Sunday</b> Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m.	16 Sewing 8 a.m.	17	18 Pathfinders 5:45 p.m.	19 Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	20 <b>Action News Deadline</b>	21 Laven Wedding
22 Worship w/communion 10 a.m. <b><u>God's Work, Our Hands</u></b>	23	24	25 Pathfinders 5:45 p.m.	26 Worship @CMH 10 a.m. Bible Study @ Terrace Heights 1 p.m.	27	28
29 Worship & Sunday School 10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship 11 a.m.	30 Sewing 8 a.m.					

**2019-2020 dates from Education Committee:**

- Rally Day/Backpack Blessing September 15**
- God's Work Our Hands September 22**
- Bible Sunday October 6**
- Confirmation Banquet Sun. Oct 13 @ 5:30 p.m.**
- Confirmation Sunday October 27**
- Christmas Program December 15**
- Last Day of Sunday School May 17**



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

Present: Nancy Exley, Jill Ramey, Wilma Triebenbach, Diane Zimmel, Kathy Ryan, Pastor Rich, Mike Curtis, Lil Ortendahl and Jessie Thornbloom

President Elect, Jessie Thornbloom, called the meeting to order.

Pastor Rich gave devotions.

Highs and Lows

Diane Zimmel motioned to accept minutes of the last meeting. Lil Ortendahl 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's report: Benevolences paid through April. Total benevolences due \$1,861.52. Have \$5,891.94 in bills to pay. See updated list of accounts attached. Lil Ortendahl made a motion to accept the Treasurers' report. Wilma Triebenbach 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

Trustees' report: No meeting this month. Lil mentioned that she asked Brian Meinen (Roadway Construction) to look at our parking lot and give us an estimate for fixing it (\$3,500).

Pastor report: Back Pack Attack: August 28<sup>th</sup> "Friend Raiser" and program promotion. September 16 packing event. Another funeral (non-member) in the next week. 2 memorials coming in September (Cesafsky and Brustad). Planning and prepping for Pathfinders. Office Assistant 1 application so far; putting ads in new places. May consider a temporary person. Britta's wedding August 24<sup>th</sup> (Pastor Rich gone Aug 22- 25<sup>th</sup>). Churchwide assembly in Milwaukee now. Bishop Elizabeth Eaton re-elected.

Stewardship: "Catchup Sunday" be3ing planned for September 15<sup>th</sup> (Rally Sunday) or September 29<sup>th</sup>.

Youth: Next meeting October 13, probably. Still looking for someone to take over for Jill Ramey.

Church in Society: August is World Hunger month and the penny jar will be out August 25<sup>th</sup>. September is "God's Work, Our Hands" month. We have 6 projects set for September 22. We will also be collecting for Operation Bootstrap again, which is set for October 5. Marlys will be giving a temple talk on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

Education report: No meeting yet.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at 7:30 p.m..

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Kathy Ryan, Council Secretary

### **Online Giving!**

You can now give your offering online! With "Stripe", you can set up your contribution to Osakis Lutheran weekly, monthly, quarterly, or even annually. Visit our church website at [www.osakislutheranelca.com](http://www.osakislutheranelca.com) to enroll. There you will find a button "donate", click on it, and follow the instructions. Their website is safe and secure.

### **Youth Chairperson needed!**

Jill Ramey has stated that she will be giving up her chairperson position for our Youth Group. We are looking for someone who would accept this position. Please talk with Pastor or Jill to gather more information.

This position can be shared by two people if interested.

September is Operation Bookstrap Africa Month. This year the Lakes Area OBA Walk will raise money to provide food and water to the Olchoki Primary School in northern Tanzania. The Olchoki Primary School serves 1,400 children. Classes run from 7 a.m. through 3 p.m. each day. Currently there is no food or water anywhere on the campus. Many of these kids do not get regular meals at home either.

The cost for feeding the whole school for a year at \$.14 a day per child is \$32,000. Lakes Area Walk cannot come close to that, but we can put a dent in the amount and by doing so feed these children for at least part of a year. **September 15 will be Osakis Lutheran's Operation Bootstrap Sunday.** There will be a chance for you to get pledge sheets for the walk and/or a chance to donate if you would like to be a part of this cause but are not a walker.

The walk this year will be from Shalom Lutheran Church across the street to Casey's Convenient Store, down the trail to Big Ole and back to Shalom. Registration is at 10:30 a.m., the walk begins at 11 a.m. There will be a lunch served after the walk. Tanzanian handicrafts will also be for sale.

Thank you for considering OBA and the Olchoki Primary School children. You are the greatest!

Marlys Benson  
OBA Rep



www.shutterstock.com · 141877248

## Offering

### Attendance 7/21/19 56

Undesignated \$1,537  
 Stoeckel Campership \$60  
 Technology Fund \$70  
 National Youth Gathering \$70

### Attendance 7/28/19 46

Undesignated \$1,000

### Attendance 8/4/19 41

Undesignated \$3,433  
 Stoeckel Campership \$70  
 Memorials \$10  
 Stripe Offering \$30

### Attendance 8/11/19 47

Undesignated \$2882  
 Youth Gathering \$67  
 Stripe Offering \$25

### Attendance 8/18/19 51

Undesignated \$1343  
 Church Rent \$300  
 Tech Fund \$67  
 Door opener \$100  
 Stripe Offering \$200

**Income July 2019 \$10,568**

**Expenses July 2019 \$10,080.30**

**Income to date \$84,532.35**

**Expenses to date \$80,493.80**

## Prayer Concerns

Jeanne Jensen, Mike Kummrow, Shelly Enger-Triebebach

**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, Jeanne Jensen

Terrace Heights: LaRayne Johnson, Ruby Maus, Lorraine (Ivy) Nomeland, Bud & Madlyn Manders

Westview Assisted Living: Stella Bender, Joyce Rossi, Audrey & Lowell Collins, Faye Maus

Out of Town

Alexandria:

Knute Nelson: Altrude Daniels

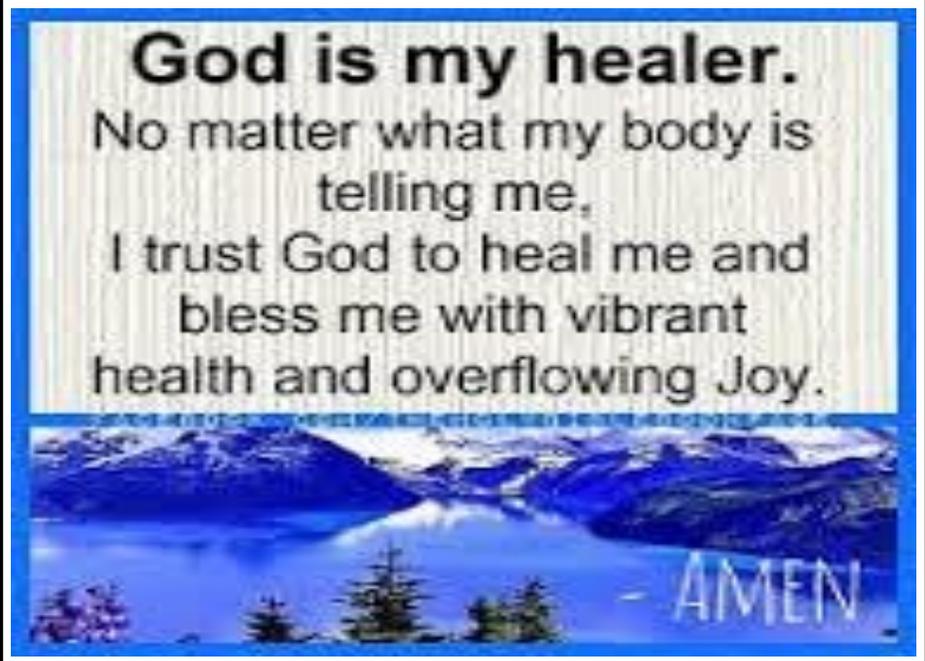
Windmill Ponds: Delores Stephens

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***

***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.