



Monthly Newsletter of
**Osseo
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church**

50351 Harmony Street
Osseo, WI 54758
(715) 597-3213

PARISH VISITOR

FEBRUARY 2022 | www.oelc.org | oelc@trivest.net | Pastors Terry Lorenz & David Hoadley

Kick off the Lenten season & join us for

LENT SOUP SUPPERS

Beginning Wednesday, March 9th
4:45pm until service at 6:00pm



So many soups to choose from! Which one do you and a couple other members want to provide during Lent? Sign-up sheet is outside the church office, so think about it and sign up soon!!!

Ash Wednesday – March 2nd

Lent Services – March 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th & April 6th

Maundy Thursday – April 14th

Good Friday – April 15th

Easter – April 17th

Church Staff

Pastor: Terry Lorenz
pastorterrylorenz@tcc.coop
715-533-8121 or 715-695-3524

Associate Pastor:
Dave Hoadley
pastordavid@tcc.coop
715-597-3213

Parish Admin.: Molly Vold
oelc@trivest.net

Choir Director/Organist:
Dan Newman
newmandr4546@me.com

Custodians:
Nikki & Carl Holmen
Mia Nicolai

Financial Assistants:
Shirley Bagley & Betty Ward

Sunday Schedule

Worship Services:
8:15 & 10:45am

Sunday School:
9:30am

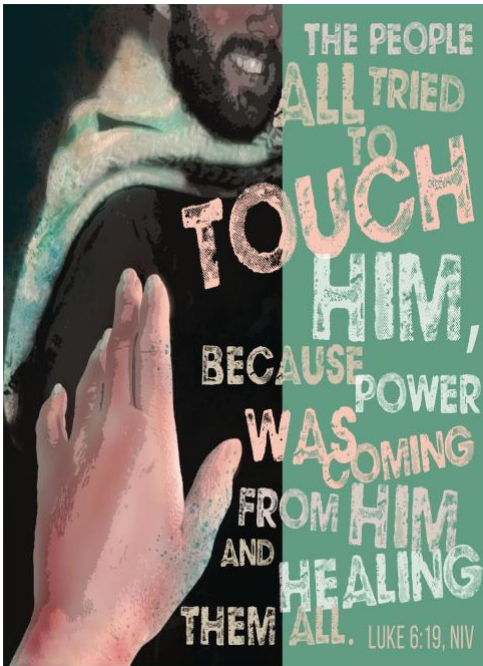
Wednesday Schedule:

Confirmation 4:00pm
Meal 5:00pm
Worship 6:00pm
Choir Practice 6:45pm

Church Hours:

8-4 - Mon., Tues., Thurs.
8-7 - Wednesday
8-Noon - Friday
7-Noon - Sunday

Would you be willing to help me with a sermon?



He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. 'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Luke 6:17-26

The passage above is the gospel reading for Sunday, February 13th, a Sunday right around the time you should have received the February edition of our church's monthly newsletter and, hopefully, had some time to read it. It is also the gospel reading for a Sunday that I am scheduled to preach during Sunday morning worship.

It is not typical for me to think about and plan for a sermon this far in advance. Quite frankly, I've never had the luxury of being able to think much beyond a week ahead but with the addition of an Associate Pastor I now find myself blessed with more time to think and plan for worship, bible study, confirmation and most every other thing a week's list of duties entails. For this I am very grateful.

With the blessing of this newly paced arrangement, I would like to use this space every now and then to invite you into the preparation of a sermon. By this I mean that it would be very interesting, and helpful I believe, for me to have you read the passage and let me know what your thoughts, questions, and comments might be on the text.

I would be interested in your initial observations and questions, your comments, or past experiences with the text, and perhaps even the things that bother you about the text.

Pastors commonly do this kind of preparation and work with other pastors, online or in person, on a weekly basis. I thought it would be rewarding to try it with the members of our congregation who are faithfully trying to find meaning in God's holy word for the lives they live here in this place.

Using the text from above, here are some questions/comments that came to mind for me when I first read it:

- ♦ Why does Jesus' come down to a level place to deliver his "beatitudes" sermon as opposed to delivering it up on the mountain as is indicated in Matthew's gospel?
- ♦ Why does Luke separate the crowd into disciples and people of the surrounding area?
- ♦ Why do "blessings" sound so unlikely and "woes" sound so unfair?

Please feel free to correspond with me via text at 715-533-8121 or email at

pastorterrylorenz@tcc.coop.

Thank you for your consideration and help.

God's peace and joy be with you always,

Pastor Terry Lorenz

A Few Words from Our Sponsor

Many years ago, I picked up a pocket-sized book called *Martin Luther's Little Instruction Book: A Classic Treasury of Timeless Wisdom and Reflection* (copyright 1996; Honor Books, Tulsa, OK). The title is almost longer than some of the quotes gathered from the father of the Lutheran faith. Not all of what Luther wrote, and he wrote a great deal, is or should be retained over the centuries; he wrote some nasty and unfortunate essays, particularly late in life, that the ELCA and other Lutheran denominations have distanced themselves from and apologized for. But Luther had a quick mind and a deep, if often biting, wit, and some of his quotes stand the test of time. Among a few, asking you to pardon retaining the male gender usage:

- “God creates out of nothing. Therefore, until a man is nothing, God can make nothing out of him.”
- “Farewell to those who want an entirely pure and purified church. This is plainly wanting no church at all.”
- “Man is by nature unable to want God to be God. Indeed, he himself wants to be God, and does not want God to be God.”
- “If a man could make a single rose, and empire should be given him. But, because of their commonness, innumerable gifts of God are not appreciated.”
- “When I would speak and pray to God by myself, a hundred thousand hindrances at once intervene before I get at it.”
- “Whatever your heart clings to and confides in, that is really your God.”
- “A Christian is a free lord of all and subject to no one. A Christian is a ministering servant of all and subject to everyone.”

Luther is even responsible for a comment that sounds very modern and is perhaps more poignant in today's world than the world of the 16th century: “The devil should not be allowed to keep all the best tunes for himself.” Maybe that's why Luther used an old tavern song as the music for “Ein Feste Berg,” the tune we know as “A Mighty Fortress is Our God.” I'm not going to interpret or comment on these quotes; I offer them for you to consider for yourselves. We who call ourselves Lutherans can feel fortunate to have had a wise, faithful, moderately irreverent ancestor whose prolific writings can offer thoughtful consideration.

Blessings,

Pastor Dave

February 2022: LOVE Your Neighbor (from 2021)

Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” –**Matthew 22:37-40**

What a shame that February – the one month of the year with keen focus on love – is also the shortest. We sure could use a lot more love in our world, especially for our neighbor.

The last 12 months have been particularly hard, as race riots, a divisive election and civil unrest have all unfolded against a traumatic backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic. Currently in very short supply, more love for neighbor would go a long way in helping us to solve our problems. Love for neighbor is integral to not only good discipleship, but also good stewardship. The greater the “love for neighbor” factor in our lives, the better stewards we will be of every blessing God provides – creation, time, relationships, money, possessions, health, to name just a few. By cultivating love for neighbor, we will also enjoy a happier life and promote a healthier and more civil society.

The opposite is also true. Cultivating enmity for neighbor leaves us sour, selfish, and cynical, while also making our nation angry and selfish.

This year make February “Love Your Neighbor” month in your personal devotions and your congregational life. Give the concept breathing room in your life. Keep it in your thoughts, sow it in our heart, talk about it to your family and friends.

Pray for God to teach you what it means to love our neighbor. Pray for God to give you the strength and will to live it. And watch as love heals and invigorates your life ... and our world.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipguy.com.



2022 Boundary Waters High School Canoe Trip

There will be a canoe trip offered to youth who have completed Grades 8 to 12 by the Spring of 2022.

The trip is from Wednesday, June 29th to Sunday July 3rd. We will begin our trip at Entry Point #52, near Brant Lake which is about an hour north of Grand Marais, MN. There will be an informational meeting held Wednesday, February 16th at 6:45 p.m. in the OELC Fellowship Hall. Please contact Pastor Terry if you'd like to sign up for the trip. Space is limited as groups can be no larger than 9 people. With 2 adult chaperones, that leaves only 7 available spots for

Amazon Smile

Do you like to order from Amazon? Now your order can also help support our mission at no extra cost to you. Any order on smile.Amazon.com will generate a 0.5% donation to OELC if you enter the church as your charity to support. Go to www.smile.amazon.com to sign-up today!

Reminders

PRAYER LIST – please let us know if you would like to add a new person or remove a current person on our prayer list.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – All submissions are due on the 16th of every month.

WHEN YOU HAVE CHANGES – Please let the church office know of changes to email address, mail/resident addresses, telephone numbers, job, college, graduations, etc.

NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN WEBSITE: nwswi.org

ELCA WEBSITE: www.elca.org

OELC OFFICE HOURS:

- 8 to 4 - Mon., Tues., & Thurs.
- 8 to 7 - Wednesday (no worship, office closes at 4)
- 8 to Noon - Friday
- 7 to Noon - Sunday (when 1 service, office closes at 10:30)

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The OELC Men's Bible Study Group meets at the Norske Nook on the first Tuesday morning of the month. Please help spread the word that all are welcome to attend our monthly sessions. Any questions or concerns, please call Pastor Terry Lorenz at 715-533-8121, 715-695-3524, or call the church office. You may bring your own bible or use the handouts provided.

Tuesday, March 1, 2022 – The Initiated Jesus, Baptized and Tempted
reading: Matthew 3:13-4:11

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 – The Tough Jesus, Temple Cleansing Time
reading: Mark 11:12-19

Tuesday, May 3, 2022 – The Tender Jesus, “Jesus wept”
reading: John 11:1-44

Tuesday, June 7, 2022 – The Triumphant Jesus, Jesus' death
reading: Luke 23:44-49

Wednesday Worship Turns to Strange Stories of the Bible

Continues in February...

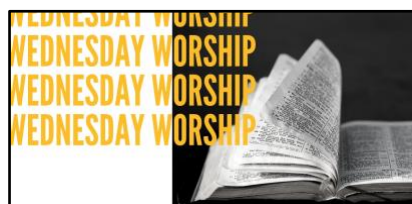
We are looking at some of the stranger stories in the bible to better understand the events and meaning therein. Here is a list of the stories we'll be considering:

Wednesday, February 2nd – Enoch & Elijah, the only two people to exit this life without dying.

Wednesday, February 9th – Boiled Goat and other frowned upon meals.

Wednesday, February 16th – Twins, not the Minnesota kind but the Bible kind.

Wednesday, February 23rd – Animals that Speak; lions, tigers, & bears... well, not exactly.



February Birthdays

- 1 Jeff Frase, Kierah Green, Sharon Jermstad, Rayanne Walker
- 2 Kacia Hagen, Jack Kempf, Hayden Smith
- 3 Ruth Miske, Greta Nelson, Samantha Scheffer
- 4 Vanessa Fremstad, Dan Halverson, Leah Lien, Jurnee Waniorek
- 5 Teagan Bratsven
- 6 Sue Coey
- 7 Emily Abley, Laura Bechard, Lisa Boettcher, Lorna Peterson
- 8 Meridith Galstad, Kristin Hart, Eric Johnson, Denise Knuth, Jack Mach, Tiffany Vold
- 10 Judy Johnson, Gabe Konop, Xavier Vold
- 11 Shirley Bagley, Matthew Hulett, Ben Jacobson, Kim Kubishak, Ben Walker
- 12 Sierra Flury, Denise Johnson
- 13 Cindy Anderson, Mary Jo Halvorson, Beverly Husom, Alvin Toft
- 14 Nels Gunderson, Peggy Olson, Ashley Skoyen
- 15 Blayne Gunderson, Sierra Olson
- 16 Audra Bissen, Darcy Guntner, Andrea Halderson, Carie Prudlick
- 17 Elliette Blattner
- 18 Brenda Clouse, Martin Jermstad, Renee Preston
- 19 Toni Dahl, Mark Hoffman, Bradley Hong, Bill Prudlick
- 20 Lowell Berg, Ashton Bertrang, Kendra Hasz, Justina Zimmerman
- 22 Jean Bratina, Drew Severson, Madison Tankovich, Morgan Tankovich
- 23 Harlan Bemis, Max Boortz, Brock Hansen, Jordan Langner, Candice Portell
- 24 Watson Boettcher, Jenny Olson
- 25 Cierra Hansen, Joey Hulett, Will Smith
- 26 Ty Hanson, Kinsley Jesunas, Arlene Vold, Brian Zimmerman
- 27 Janet Johnson, Alyssa Skoyen
- 28 Kasey Bothe, Brenda Hong, Cherri Severson

*If your birthday should be on this list & isn't, please contact the church office.



Gatherings are on the first Wednesday of the month. All are welcome! For more information, call Lorna at 715-590-2159.



The Quilters meet the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

Bring a sack lunch. Everyone is welcome. If school is canceled, so is quilting.



The ladies of OELC meet for monthly bible study on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. We use the bible study found in the Gather magazine. Copies of the magazine and study are available in the church office, or you can subscribe. Come join us as we study in word, prayer, and faith God's holy Word and it's meaning. All studies are held in the Family Room.

2022 SUNDAY SCHOOL

- 2/13 —4K-4th grades SPECIAL MUSIC at 8:15 a.m.
- 3/13 —4K-4th grades SPECIAL MUSIC at 8:15 a.m.
- 4/10 —4K-4th grades SPECIAL MUSIC at 8:15 a.m.
- 4/17 —NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (EASTER Break)
- 5/8 —Last Day of Sunday School - ALL GRADES SINGING at 8:15 a.m.



First Communion Classes

5TH GRADE

4TH GRADE

Receive Holy Communion
February 6th at
10:45am service

February 13th, 20th, & 27th
Receive Holy Communion
March 6th at 10:45am service



Confirmation

Wednesdays

Snack: 3:40; Class: 4:00;
Meal: 5:00; Worship: 6:00

INTERGENERATIONAL FAMILY FUN NIGHT!



Let's head to the slopes of Bruce Mound for Snow Tubing! All ages are encouraged to join in the fun.

WHEN: Saturday, February 26 from 5:00—8:00PM

COST: Free—thanks to the generosity of Bryan Staff and Jared Ingenthron of Thrivent Financial

Hot dogs, chips, water and hot chocolate will be provided. **Donations will be accepted at this event for the Interfaith Caregivers building project in Black River Falls.**

HELP NEEDED: Folks to bring a pan of bars to share, kitchen helpers to heat up the hot dogs, serve, and do minimal clean up.

FYI:

Confirmation Sunday is May 1st

Soup Suppers start on March 9th – all confirmation students will be scheduled to work 1 soup supper.

Confirmation Classes are suspended during the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday is March 2 & there will be no class. Students are expected to attend Mid-Week Lenten Worship Services & work their scheduled soup supper.

General Operating Fund

Income & Expense Report—Through Jan. 31, 2022
With Comparison to 2021 & Annual Budget

<u>Income</u>	2022	2021		
All offerings	17,634	15,727		
Other Gen.	977	1,489		
	<u>18,611</u>	<u>17,216</u>		
			<u>Expenses</u>	Annual Budget Remaining
			2022	2021
Misc.	744	2,690	0	0
Pastoral Staff	18,606	8,996	217,834	9.7%
Non-Pastoral Staff	5,264	6,532	74,496	9.7%
Worship & Music	158	283	3,342	4.5%
Ministries & Committees	57	250	3,643	1.5%
Church Property	3,540	2,791	40,760	7.9%
Parsonage	615	471	7,885	7.8%
Admin/Office	640	331	8110	7.3%
	<u>29,624</u>	<u>22,344</u>		



“Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church”



“oelc_osseo”



SPONSORSHIPS

OELC offers several opportunities to honor a loved one, commemorate a special occasion or celebrate a milestone.

BULLETINS: You can sponsor a weekly worship service bulletin. There is one sponsorship available per week. The cost is \$20.

ALTAR FLOWERS: If you prefer altar flowers, there is one sponsorship per week. The cost is \$25, or you may bring your own (2 vases) or order them yourself from Colby’s Florist. You may also increase your fee for special order flowers (more than carnations).

SECURITY SYSTEM: You can sponsor the building’s security system each month for \$25.

NEWSLETTER: The Parish Visitor is also available to be sponsored. For 1/2 a month, it is \$40 and for the entire month, it is \$75.

To sponsor any of the above, call the church office at 715-597-3213 or email at oelc@trivest.net. Payment can be made by check payable to “OELC” or online (still email to let me know what it is for).

**Kwik Trip Cards
make GREAT
gifts!!!**



Profits from the cards will go into the Youth account, which is used for kids going to Luther Park Bible Camp or any TGIF activities. They are available in the office. Thanks for helping support the Youth at OELC.

Choose How You Watch Services...

Livestream Options:

1. **OELC website**
www.oelc.org
2. **OELC Facebook Page**
“Osseo Evangelical
Lutheran Church”
3. **YouTube Channel**
“Osseo Lutheran”



Volunteering

TRI COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

3rd Saturday of the Month
At Osseo Rural Fire Station
behind Stockman's
10:00-11:00 am



2nd Tuesday of the Month
At Osseo Rural Fire Station behind Stockman's
3:00-4:30 PM

It will be outdoor drive through if weather
permits and drive through inside the
fire station if weather is bad.

Guests donate \$22 for one share of food.
Limit of 2 shares per car.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please come help at 1:30, if possible,
or when you can get there.

CHOOSE HOW YOU GIVE

*“All must give as they are able, according to the
blessings given to them by the Lord your God.”*

– Deuteronomy 16:17

Give easily and securely...

1. www.oelc.org/giving.html
2. Simply Giving (see Molly
in the church office)
3. Text “OELC” to 73256
& follow the prompts
4. Mail your offering envelope to:
OELC
50351 Harmony Street
Osseo, WI 54758

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

If you would like to support our OELC Coffee
Fellowship, here are 3 easy ways to help:

1. Provide treats & juice and serve as
host/hostess
2. Provide treats & juice and the committee
will serve for you
3. Sponsor treats & juice (\$30) and the
committee will serve for you.

**If you are willing to help with Coffee
Hour, simply do the following:**

1. Pick a date on the sign-up sheet
2. Write in your name
3. Put down your preference (see above)
1, 2, or 3

Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church
 50351 Harmony Street
 Osseo, WI 54758-7395
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Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Osseo, WI 54758

715-597-3213

www.oelc.org t.oelc@trwest.net

Please join us for Sunday Worship

Sundays

8:15 & 10:45

Wednesday Worship

6:00pm

Pastor: Terry Lorenz

Associate Pastor: David Hoadley

Our Mission at OELC:

to share our faith and bring people

to Jesus Christ,

to love our neighbors as ourselves,

and to minister to the needs of ALL people.



February 5th Luther Park Bible Camp Annual Meeting

February 6th 5th Grade First Communion at 10:45

Luther Park Bible Camp Chill! Fest Family Event

(Noon-4pm)

February 11th Dove Healthcare Letse Lunch to Go!

February 13th H.S. Youth Group Meeting – 6:00pm

February 13th, 20th, & 27th 4th Grade First Communion Class

February 16th Boundary Waters Trip Informational Mtg. (6:45)

February 20th Augusta H.S. Pancake Breakfast

February 26th Intergenerational Family Fun Night at Bruce Mound

March 2nd Ash Wednesday

March 6th 4th Grade First Communion at 10:45

March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6 Wednesday LENT Worship Services

& Soup Suppers

April 10th Palm Sunday

April 14th Maundy Thursday

April 15th Good Friday

April 17th Easter Sunday

May 4th WELCA Salad Luncheon

May 23rd Lifeline Screening