

Monthly Newsletter of

Osseo Evangelical Lutheran

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

Church

JULY 2022 | www.oelc.org | oelc@triwest.net | Pastors Terry Lorenz & David Hoadley

Message to the Congregation from W/ELCA

Hopefully, prayerfully we are moving forward leaving the isolation of COVID behind. However, at the end of the day the most important thing is to be safe.

SO.....

One of the services of W/ELCA is serving—especially funerals. That being said, because of COVID, we have had to change how we acquire food and how it is prepared. For the time being we are purchasing the food instead of calling on members to prepare it in their homes and the use of work groups has temporarily been put on hold. Yes, it is true that a small group of women have been doing the serving but only because they have been readily available without a lot of calling. But volunteers are always needed and welcome. Please call Molly if you are willing and available to help.

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart."

Elizabeth Andrews

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth"

Muhammad Ali

"As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands—one for helping yourself, the other for helping others."

Audrey Hepburn



Church Staff

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

Associate Pastor: Dave Hoadley pastordavid@tcc.coop 763-221-1928

<u>Parish Admin.</u>: Molly Vold oelc@triwest.net

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

<u>Custodians</u>: Nikki & Carl Holmen Mia Nicolai

<u>Financial Assistants</u>: Shirley Bagley & Betty Ward

> Sunday Schedule Worship Services: 9:00am

Sunday School (Sept.-May): 9:30am

Wednesday Schedule (Sept.-May): Confirmation 4:00pm

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

Church Hours:

8-4 - Mon.-Thurs.8-Noon - Friday8-10:30 - Sunday



OELC's Wednesday Worship Fall Schedule

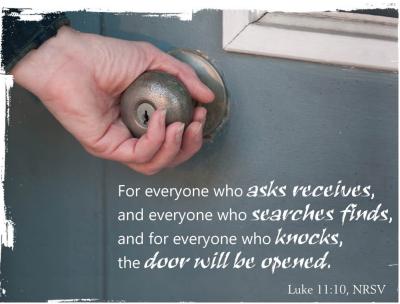
On Wednesday, September 7, 2022, Wednesday Worship Services will resume at Osseo Lutheran with a 5-part series on the Book of Revelation. For 5 consecutive Wednesdays our lessons for each service will draw from what is, for many, the most mystifying book of the New Testament. Our intent will be to consider, reflect on, and give thanks for the book of Revelation as a source of great hope and inspiration in times of persecution and suffering.

Following our series on Revelation we will lighten things up a bit with an upclose look at six notable people of scripture. (The six people have not yet been chosen so let us know if you have a suggestion). This 6-part series, from Wednesday, October 12 through November 16, will take us up to a week off for Thanksgiving. When we return to Wednesday Worship on Wednesday, November 30, we will return to the sanctuary for mid-week Advent worship services.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP:

Meal in Fellowship Hall at 5 p.m. Worship in the Chapel at 6 p.m.

July of 2022



I am hopeful that the last part of the above verse from the gospel author Luke is so at your home because I hope to be the one knocking at your door this summer. It has long been a goal of mine to spend far less time in the pastor's study and more time in company of God's people.

Don't get me wrong, the pastor's study is a wonderful setting in which to read, reflect upon, and ready oneself for sharing the story of God's love for His people. However, not many of God's people live their lives within the confines of any pastor's study and it is far too easy to let the experience of faith become too much of an academic exercise.

It is no secret that I enjoy being with people, something that has been heavily curtailed of late. We have a number of folks whose connection to OELC has been less personal than what it once was. It's time to reunite members of OELC in a more personal way.

With this goal in mind, I offer you fair warning...I'm headed your way. But don't worry, I won't arrive unannounced, and I do not intend to violate anyone's desire to remain at a safe distance from the risk of the Corona virus. My plan is to call ahead to see of you would indeed answer the door if I came a knockin'.

I hope to see you soon. Pastor Terry Lorenz



As Independence Day draws near, I'm pondering the intersection of being a pastor and an American. Long before it was a country, this land drew potential settlers from England seeking freedom to worship as they wished. This freedom wouldn't create a relaxation of strictness; as the History Channel's website points out, "The Puritans' ecclesiastical order was as intolerant as the one they had fled." And I won't get into here how they treated those who'd been on the land for some 10,000 years. But these settlers wanted to be rid of the state-mandated religion that see-sawed

between Roman Catholicism and the Church of England depending on who the monarch was.

Freedom of religion is the top of the list of rights guaranteed by the First Amendment. The Bill of Rights begins, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;" Both sides of the coin are mentioned: government shall not establish a "state religion," but neither shall it prevent people from worshipping. Also note that the phrase, "Separation of church and state" doesn't appear in the Constitution. According to the Free Speech Center at Middle Tennessee State University, the first use of that phrase is credited to Roger Williams, founder of Rhode Island, who claimed that an authentic Christian church would be possible only if there was "a wall or hedge of separation" between church and state because any government involvement in the church would corrupt the church.

We've seen how church and government can both negatively influence each other. I support keeping government interference out of the expression of any religion (within reason), but I also think we start down an icy slope when we hold our laws to the litmus test of "traditional Christian values" and call this "a Christian nation." It was never intended to be guided by *any* particular religion, or by religion at all.

I believe there's room in religious faith for patriotism. Despite its foibles, this is a great country and has much to be proud of. As Christians, we can celebrate that we live in a place where freedom to worship was basic to its Constitution. I'm not against the flag in the sanctuary or singing patriotic songs in worship. But like many things in our world, patriotism can become an idol, a false god that has taken the name "Nationalism," with a subset within the church, "Christian Nationalism." This is indeed a great country, and there are many other great countries in the world whose residents can be proud and patriotic for their homeland. I hold firm to my faith but recognize other faiths than mine. We shouldn't expect the world to submit to the wants of a single country or a country to submit to the beliefs of a single religion, especially when members of that religion disagree among themselves about how to define its "traditional values." Celebrate the US and worship our amazing God who became flesh to save us from our sins. And then love and accept those who differ from us in any way. That's what it means to be free, and that's the most basic Christian value we have.

Pastor Dave

2022-2023 Church Dates-to-Remember

August 2022

31st Chancel Choir Practice Begins (6:45-8pm)

September 2022

5th Labor Day – Church Office Closed

7th Prayer Shawl Gathering (1-3)

7th Wednesday Night Meal & Worship Service

11th 2-Services begins, Rally Sunday, Teacher Installation (8:15), Sunday Bible Study, & High School Youth Group

13th Quilting Officially begins

14th CONFIRMATION Orientation (6:30)

18th Presentation of 3rd Grade Bibles (8:15)

21st Women's Bible Study begins (1:00)

21st Confirmation Classes begin (4:00)

24th W/ELCA Online Bazaar & In-person Thrift Sale

October 2022

4th Men's Bible Study at Norske Nook begins (8am)

9th Sunday School Special Music – 4K-4th grades (8:15)

9th Community Clean-up/God's Work, Our Hands

16th Presentation of 9th Grade Pillowcases (8:15)

24th & 25th Prep Days for Harvest Dinner

26th Harvest Dinner (Drive-thru?)

November 2022

6th Daylight Savings Ends (Fall Back)

6th All Saints Day

13th Sunday School Special Music – 4K-4th grades (8:15)

23rd Thanksgiving Community Service at Osseo-UCC

24th Lions Club Thanksgiving Meal

27th 1st Sunday of Advent

30th Wednesday Advent Services begin (6pm)-No meal

December 2022

1st OELC Committee Reports Due

7th W/ELCA Christmas Buffet

18th Sunday School Christmas Program (10:45)

24th Christmas Eve Services at 4:30 & 6:30pm

25th Christmas Day Service at 9:00am

26th Church Office Closed

January 2023

lst Lessons & Carols at 9am (No Communion)

4th Wednesday Meal & Worship resumes

8th, 15th, & 22nd Ist Communion Classes (4th Graders)

29th OELC Annual Meeting (~9:15am)

February 2023

5th 4th graders receive 1st Communion

5th Installation of Church Council members

12th Sunday School Special Music – 4K-4th grades (8:15)

22nd Ash Wednesday – Service at 6pm

26th 1st Sunday of Lent

Feb. 22nd April 5th – NO Confirmation Classes

March 2023

 l^{st} Soup Suppers & Lenten services begin

12th Sunday School Special Music – 4K-4th grades (8:15)

April 2023

^{2nd} Palm Sunday – Possible Chancel Choir Cantata

6th Maundy Thursday – Service at 6pm

7th Good Friday – Services at Noon & 6pm

9th Easter Sunday – Sunrise Service at -6:30am

12th Confirmation Classes Resume

26th Last Day of Confirmation Classes

May 2023

3rd Confirmation Rehearsal (6:30)

7th Affirmation of Baptism (10:45)

14th All Grades Sing for Mother's Day (8:15)

21st 1-Worship Service Begins at 9am; High School Graduates Brunch following Worship & Presentation of Quillows at 9am

29th Memorial Day – Church Office Closed

All Saints Sunday – 1st Sunday in November

Church Council Meeting – 2nd Wednesday of month

Committee Annual Reports Due – December 1st

Harvest Dinner – 4th Wednesday of October

High School Youth Group – 2nd Sunday of month

Holy Communion – 1^{st} & Last Sunday of month

Men's Bible Study – 1st Tuesday of month

Newsletter Articles Due – 16^{th} of the month

Noisy Offering – Last Sunday of month

OELC Annual Meeting – Last Sunday in January

Prayer Shawl Gathering – 1^{st} Wednesday of month

Quilting – 2^{nd} & 4^{th} Tuesday of month

Sunday Bible Study – 2^{nd} & 4^{th} Sundays of month

Sunday School – 9:30-10:30am, Sept. – May

Tri County Food Pantry – $3^{\rm rd}$ Saturday of month

Women's Bible Study – 3rd Wednesday of month ***Some dates change due to scheduling conflicts,

holidays or other factors.

Generosity in Action

During these difficult financial times, there is more than giving an offering to your church. You can give the generosity of your time. You may find yourself asking, how can I give of my time. OELC is always looking for individuals/families to serve in many areas.

Worship Assistants

Please consider helping to make worship an inviting and engaging experience for all. Would you be willing to read a lesson, assist with communion, help us usher or perhaps greet incoming worshipers? All ages are welcome. Please see the questionnaire below.

HELP WANTED!

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

Please check those items for which you are willing to commit your time & energy. Please contact Parish Administrator, Molly Vold, at 715-597-3213 or oelc@triwest.net for more information about any of these opportunities to serve your church.

Name:	I am willing to
Phone:	Assist with Communion
	Lector on Sunday mornings (read scripture)
	Usher
] 	Greet



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: www.nwswi.org

ELCA WEBSITE: www.elca.org

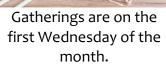
OELC OFFICE HOURS:

- o 8 to 4 Monday Thursday
- 8 to Noon Friday
- o Church hours will be modified per activities.

Sunday Morning Bible Study will begin again in September! 2nd & 4th Sundays between services in the Family Room ALL ARE WELCOME!

The following ministries are taking the summer off (unless otherwise noted).

Check back in August for start dates.



PRAYER SHAWI MINISTRY

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 at OELC.



- Don Giem, Trystan Gunderson,
 Sharon Halderson Andrea Kubishak
- 4 Val Lorenz, Logan Smith, Natalie Velie
- 6 Rose Bohlinger
- 7 Aksel Hicks, Marian Severson
- 8 Samantha Anderson, Aidan Everson
- 9 Janell Larson, Jillian Scheffer
- 10 Keyton Boettcher, Eric Halvorson, Ella Welke
- 11 Tony Bohlinger, Garret Gunderson
- 13 Larea Holmgreen, Wyatt McCune
- 14 Brogan Korger, Bella Nicolai
- 15 Travis Anderson, Chad Tankovich
- 16 Hailey Ness, Barb Witte
- 18 Shaun Everson
- 19 Alex Myhers, Molly Nicolet
- 21 Erin Everson, Kaden Hasz
- 22 Hudsyn Hulett, Kimi Sieg
- 23 Leah Ness
- 24 Dave Lundberg, Dr. Thomas Screnock
- 25 Jacob Sass, Mason Scheffer
- 26 Greg Chase, Emma Lisowski, Rosi Seffens, Denny Wilkinson
- 27 Christopher Cuddy, Terry Lorenz
- 28 Deb Bemis, Gauge Bertrang, Daxton Freitag, Greg Zimmerman
- 29 Adeline Ashwell, Kalyn Hallum, Chad Halvorson
- 30 Madi Loonstra
- 31 Jeff Gunning
- *If your birthday should be on this list & isn't, please contact the church office.



Donations of feminine hygiene products are being accepted for distribution here at OELC, at Osseo-Fairchild Schools, and at the Tri County Food Pantry. Please place donations in the basket next to the OELC Pantry near the main office. Monetary donations can be dropped off in the church office; please indicate "hygiene products" with your gift. Thank you!



Reminder: The Church is Still Open

We wait all year for those "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer" (as the old song goes), and we fill them with vacations at the lake, camping trips in the woods and flying to far-off places. It's no wonder that church attendance dips in the summer.

But while you are relaxing, your church continues to be busy – with regular worship, social activities, caring for sick and the homebound members, planning weddings, baptisms, and funerals, and ministering to the hungry and homeless in your community. And you pastors and church staff still need to be paid, as does the electric company.

So, here's the problem: The bills continue to roll in even when you're away, and many congregants have not planned to keep their offerings current when they are on vacation. That's why so many congregations face a cash crunch in the summer months. But here are some ideas for how to help your congregation maintain its finances in the summer months. (Continued on page 8)

<u>Pay it forward</u>: Your congregation would love to receive your summer offerings-or part of them-in advance. If you know you're going to be away, plan by offering more in the weeks in advance of your time away from church.

<u>Make it up</u>: Alternatively, when you get back from your time away, give a little more in the weeks that follow to make up for the lost weeks.

<u>Use your envelopes</u>: Are you a check-writing person? Then simply fill in advance your offering envelopes with your weekly gift. If you have a check in every envelope, then on any given Sunday you need only to bring that day's envelope and whatever earlier Sunday envelopes are there.

<u>Use banking bill pay</u>: Lots of people find online banking services a convenient way to pay their monthly bills. Why not your church offering, too? Many online banking services will cut a check and send it to the church for you.

Enroll in Simply Giving: You can enroll any time. Just ask in the church office. Your offerings will go right to the church in the amount and according to the timeframe you specify.

Pay online or via text: See page 10 for more information!

Of course, these methods are beneficial not only for the summer months, but also for the whole year through. Those who embrace giving as a spiritual discipline often find that their lives of faith are enriched, and their sense of joy and fulfillment is deepened. Choosing a regular-giving strategy can help you to discover the joys of generosity.



General Operating Fund

Income & Expense Report—Through June 28, 2022 With Comparison to 2021 & Annual Budget

<u>Income</u>	2022	2021		
All offerings	109,081	106,001		
Other Gen.	33,313	<u> 30,291</u>		
	142,394	136,292		
			Annual	
<u>Expenses</u>	2022	2021	Budget	YTD %
			Remaining	
Misc.	10,248	3,926	0	0
Pastoral Staff	108,319	57,052	133,023	45%
Non-Pastoral	38,345	41,003	44,118	47%
Staff				
Worship & Music	1,314	2,897	2,185	38%
Ministries	1,164	676	2,536	32%
& Committees				
Church Property	25,392	24,123	16,292	63%
Parsonage	4,058	3,474	4,442	48%
Admin/Office	4,490	<u>3,681</u>	4,139	53%
	193,330	136,831		

YTD Total Income: \$142,394 YTD Total Expenses: \$193,330 Income Less Expenses: (\$50,936)



"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@triwest.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:

 OELC website www.oelc.org

2. OELC Facebook Page

"Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church"

3. YouTube Channel "Osseo Lutheran"



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 \$25 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:

- 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

Name:	Date:

books of the bible

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Malachi Micah Daniel Ecclesiastes Ezra Joshua Revelation Titus Galatians Mark Zechariah
Jonah
Ezekiel
Proverbs
Chronicles
Deuteronomy
Jude
Timothy
Corinthians
Matthew

Haggai
Obadiah
Lamentations
Psalms
Kings
Numbers
Peter
Thessalonians
Romans

Zephania Amos Jeremiah Job Samuel Leviticus James Colossians Acts Habakkuk Joel Isaiah Esther Ruth Exodus Hebrews Philippians John Nahum Hosea Song of Solomon Nehemiah Judges Genesis Philemon Ephesians Luke



Harvest Dinner Oct. 26th Presentation of 9th Grade Pillowcases Oct. 16th Oct. 9th **OELC Community Service Day** շept. չգ^{ւր} WELCA Thrift Sale & Online Raffle Presentation of 3rd Grade Bibles (8:15) Sept. 18th շերւ ւգ^{ւր} Confirmation Orientation շեքբ ււ_{ւս} Rally Sunday August 31st Chancel Choir Practice Begins ուր դ**ջո**ջոչ Coffee Fellowship following worship qirT noissiM 92A րշ-91 ylut ASP Send-off during Worship ^տօւ չluէ ^{եշ}ջ չվու Coffee Fellowship following worship June 29-July 3 Boundary Waters Canoe Trip



Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church

50351 Harmony Street

Osseo, WI 54758-7395 Address Service Requested

* DATED MATERIAL *

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PERMIT NO. 5

and to minister to the needs of ALL people. to <u>love</u> our neighbors as ourselves, to Jesus Christ, to <u>share</u> our faith and <u>bring</u> people Our Mission at OELC:

Associate Pastor: David Hoadley Pastor: Terry Lorenz

(yeM-.7492) ?4:01 & ?1:8

(Summer) m600:9 shepuns

Please join us tor Sunday Worship www.oelc.org toelc@triwest.net

6176-766-617

055EO, WI 54758 50351 Harmony Street Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church to the newsletter of

PARISH VISITOR