



Monthly Newsletter of
**Osseo
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church**

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

PARISH VISITOR

MARCH 2023 | www.oelc.org | oelc@triwest.net | Pastors Terry Lorenz & David Hoadley

Lent 2023

“Instruments of God’s Peace”

Based on the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

March 1st: “Where there is hatred, let me sow love”

March 8th: “Where there is injury, pardon”

March 15th: “Where there is doubt, faith”

March 22nd: “Where there is despair, hope”

March 29th: “Where there is darkness, light”



Lenten Services

Worship Service at 6pm

Soup Supper at 4:45pm

Church Staff

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

Associate Pastor:
Dave Hoadley
Pastordave54758@gmail.com
763-221-1928

Parish Admin.: Molly Vold
oelc@triwest.net

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

Accompanist: Cathy Hoadley

Custodians:
Nikki & Carl Holmen
Sheila Nelson

Financial Assistants:
Shirley Bagley & Betty Ward

Sunday Schedule

Worship Services:
9:00am

8:15 & 10:45

Sunday School

(Sept.-May): 9:30am

Wednesday Schedule (Sept.-May):

Confirmation 4:00pm

Meal 5:00pm

Worship 6:00pm

Choir Practice 6:45pm

Church Office Hours:

8-4 - Mon.-Thurs.

8-Noon - Friday

8-Noon - Sunday

Order your Easter Lily to be placed in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday Morning given in honor or in memory of loved ones or special friends.
\$17
Orders due: Sunday, March 26th
Order sheet outside church office.

REMEMBER TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS! REMEMBER

March 12th



I doubt that in Jesus' days on earth he received very many other late-night visitors. There is, of course, that late night visit to the Garden of Gethsemane but that was a one off as they say. Late night visits would have been out of the ordinary - especially by such a learned man as Nicodemus.

It's hard to say which part of the visit may have surprised Jesus the most, the hour at which Nicodemus came calling or the lack of understanding with regards to the presence and power of God's Holy Spirit.

As people who worship the Triune God, we've been taught to see God, Father, Son & Holy Spirit, in all of scripture.

You'd think Nicodemus, who'd been taught to think critically, could have come up with a much better response to this teaching than, "How can this be". They were, after all discussing the Lord of all creation.

This poor late-night visitor couldn't have been farther from understanding the sort of birth Jesus was referring to. Certainly, Nicodemus would have collapsed right there had Jesus went on to tell Nic that in the birth he spoke of there was also to be death, a different sort of dying altogether.

If you can make it to either worship service on Sunday March 5, 2023, I'll be happy to tell you more about the story. For now, maybe go read the story of Nicodemus, the poor fellow who struggled to grasp just how anyone, young or old, could possibly be born a second time. After all, most mothers who've experienced the labor and delivery of a child would likely agree that once for each baby is quite enough.

Pastor Terry



The month of March is the subject of some common phrases. There's "March Madness" as high school and college basketball tournaments take place; "March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb," that hoped-for transition from blustery late winter to calm early spring; "Mad as a March hare," used by Lewis Carroll in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, though the phrase didn't originate with him; the "Ides of March,"

forever tied by William Shakespeare to the assassination of Julius Caesar; and apparently there's a lesser-known addition to a familiar English proverb: "March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers."

March is the "official" month in at least ten categories, such as National Celery Month and National Women's History Month. Every day in March also has some celebration attached, from Peace Corps Day on March 1st to National Crayon Day on the 31st. There are more notable days like St. Patrick's Day, the Spring equinox, and Earth Day. Christians commemorate the Feast of the Annunciation on March 25th, nine months before Christmas Day, marking the traditional date the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary. And for our Muslim sisters and brothers, the holy month of Ramadan begins on the evening of the 23rd this year.

We're all well-experienced in the unpredictable nature of March—perhaps it's not a coincidence that the month is named for Mars, the Roman god of war. We might get some warm, sunny days early in the month, but we always brace for the tournament-time storms that can be winter's final assault. While those storms are inconvenient, they're usually not as emotionally overwhelming as a December blizzard or January cold snap. We know spring WILL come soon; it never HASN'T happened.

We enter the third month of 2023 aware that many individuals, communities, and even nations have faced and continue to face times of deep difficulties already this year. Humans know that storms are an inevitable part of life and bring with them emotions like grief and despair. But clouds eventually clear and brighter times shine. It may not ever again be like it was before the storm, but it'll be better than it is in the midst of the chaos.

For Christians, as the season of Lent continues throughout the month of March, we're fortunate to have past experience to assure us how things will end. We can't avoid the storms of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, or else Easter loses its meaning. But we aren't expected to dwell on those days of grief and darkness. We know Easter WILL come; it never HASN'T happened since that first time. That same hope informs our eternity, too. Our past experiences of what God's love and mercy has always done assure us that God's promise of forgiveness of sins and eternal life is how the story WILL end. I pray you find meaning in your Lenten reflections, and I wish you a blessed Easter.

Pastor Dave

2023 Church Dates-to-Remember

March 2023

- 1st 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)
- 21st All Grades Sing (8:15)
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 – 1st & Last Sunday of month
Men's Bible Study – 1st Tuesday of month
Newsletter Articles Due – 16th of the month
Noisy Offering – Last Sunday of month
OELC Annual Meeting – Last Sunday in January
Prayer Shawl Gathering – 1st Wednesday of month
Quilting – 2nd & 4th Tuesday of month
Sunday Bible Study – 2nd & 4th Sundays of month
Sunday School – 9:30-10:30am, Sept. – May
Tri County Food Pantry – 3rd Saturday of month
Women's Bible Study – 3rd Wednesday of month
***Some dates change due to scheduling conflicts, holidays, or other factors.

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.

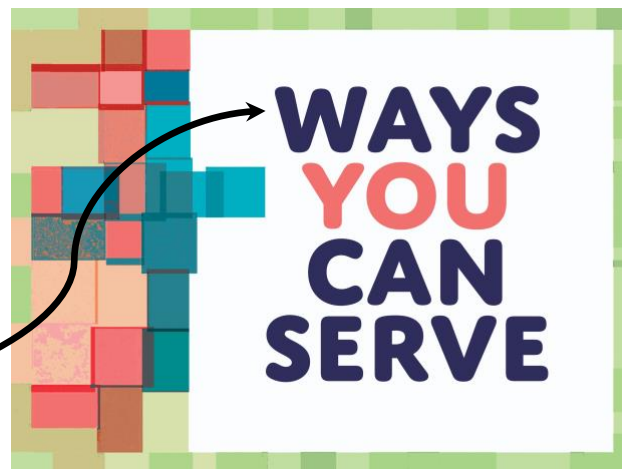
NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN WEBSITE: www.nswsi.org

ELCA WEBSITE: www.elca.org

OELC OFFICE HOURS:

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

Want to be more involved at your church??? Stop by the church office today and we'll guide you to all the opportunities at OELC!



Think of how people talk about “church.” Most say, “We’re going to church,” as though church is a building. Or, “It’s time for church,” as though church is a worship service. If you call Calvary home, you know: “Church” is SO MUCH MORE!

We are the church when...

- ... we make quilts for families & individuals in need
- ... we provide a family with an abundant amount of Christmas gifts
- ... we purchase barnyard animals to eradicate world hunger
- ... we welcome 70+ kids to Sunday school
- ... we gather in bible study to grow in faith and support one another
- ... we provide funds for those experiencing hard times.

You are the church when you take the time to listen to a friend who is hurting, prioritize your spouse, and wrap your kids up in God’s love. Our vision of OELC should be known as **the church that cares as much for those who aren’t here as those who are, and help other churches do the same.** When the Apostle Paul describes the church, he calls it a bride, a body, a family, and a living temple. The church is a living, breathing, moving, life-changing group of people known for their unrelenting, unbiased, never-ending love!

In 2023, God is inviting us to BE THE CHURCH in big and bold ways! Inside, you will find all the ways we are going to be the church together. In order to do all of this, it’s going to take all of us. I invite you to prayerfully consider how you will financially support your church in 2023. Each and every commitment, regardless of the size, allows us to follow God’s call.

THANK YOU for being the church!



General Operating Fund

Income & Expense Report—Through February 27, 2023
With Comparison to 2022 & Annual Budget

<u>Income</u>	2023	2022		
All offerings	48,850	29,498		
Other Gen.	1,986	2,571		
	50,836	32,069		
<u>Expenses</u>	2023	2022	Annual Budget Remaining	YTD %
Misc.	955	1,919	0	-
Pastoral Staff	37,996	37,196	203,528	16%
Non-Pastoral Staff	12,266	11,313	70,741	15%
Worship & Music	529	323	2,971	15%
Ministries & Committees	28	408	3,672	1%
Church Property	8,304	7,364	37,996	18%
Parsonage	1,304	1,518	7,696	14%
Admin/Office	1,662	1,767	7,808	19%
	63,044	61,808		

1-1-2023 Beginning Balance in General Operating Fund ~

\$ 16,744
+ 50,836
\$ 67,580
(- 63,044)
\$ 4,536
~ balance on 2/27/2023

Other Fund Balances:

Mission: \$ 119
Special: \$ 42,582
Debt: \$ 18,118
Youth: \$ 7,329



- 1 Sonja Herbert, Garrett Loesel, Ryan Myhers
- 2 Eric Boettcher, Neil Merritt, Kaden Moseley, Nathan Torpen
- 3 Ethan Dahl, Aleisha Lutzen, Jaxon Zawacki
- 4 Bryor Fremstad, Linda Heiman, Wayne Knapcik
- 5 Donna Fonner
- 6 Deanna Klindworth, Alex Moldenhauer, John Severson, Victoria Bertrang
- 8 Caitlyn Hugdahl, Kaylyn Kubishak, Ryder Ness, Lorraine McCune
- 9 Carol Baumbach
- 10 Pam Merritt
- 11 Isaac Miller, Robert Rongstad
- 12 Joanne Dahl, Peyton Lane, Noah Martinson
- 13 Drew Hanson, Julie Johnson, Denise Schwoch, Marvin Schwoch, Wayne Vold, Alfons Jesunas
- 14 Cindy Knapcik
- 15 Leo Anderson, Michael Boettcher, Terry Halderson, Jered Kuehn
- 16 Peggy Biesen, Sara Boetcher, Dayton Kraft, Jean Olson
- 17 Tammy Cuddy, Jenna Ives, Emerick Korger, Curt Nelson
- 18 Pat Halverson, Judy Kolar, Ella Scheller, Wes Whited
- 19 Elliot Apland, Alexander Cuddy
- 20 Joyce Bratsven, Lucy Everson
- 21 Cory Myhers
- 23 Stella Apland, Jazmyn Flury
- 24 Leona Torpen
- 26 Dylan Diehl, Ander Nelson, Kara Skoyen
- 27 Spencer Anderson, Patty Hoffman, Christine Mercer, Levi Nelson, Matthew Stanek
- 28 Harper Anderson, Kole Bratina, Les Vold, Joshua Daffinson, Tate Boettcher
- 29 Esther Larson, Jianna Scheffer
- 30 Kayleen Horel, Teagan Jesunas, Amy McCune, Aaron Vold
- 31 Tim Johnson, Parker Rongstad

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



The Quilters meet the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 10-4
Bring a sack lunch.
Everyone is welcome.
If school is canceled, so is quilting.



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



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.



Retired Pastor Donna Fonner and Pastor Terry take turns leading weekly sessions in the Family Room. Topics of discussion will be the Book of James each Sunday through May 14th.

Grab your coffee and treat & meet in the Family Room after the 8:15 service. A copy of this short but important book of the Bible and schedule of weekly conversation will be provided.

Bible study will take place between worship services from 9:30 to 10:30 am.

Osseo-Fairchild School District Nurse Ashley Hurlburt is creating a resource room for middle school and high school students experiencing financial instability. A large percentage of OFSD students live in households at or below the federal poverty line. OELC is partnering to gather items that Nurse Ashley can offer in the resource room.

Among the needs:

New/gently used clothing in sizes for middle school/high school students:

- Outerwear—coats, hats, gloves/mittens, shoes and boots
- Socks
- Underwear (new only, please)
- Everyday clothing—jeans/pants, shorts, T-shirts/other shirts, active wear, sleepwear

Easy-to-prepare food:

- Food items students can bring home for family meals away from school
- Daily breakfast and dinner
- Weekend meals
- Snacks

Feminine period products:

- Various sizes of tampons, pads, and/or liners

Donations can be left in the basket next to the mini-pantry cupboard or given to Pastor Dave.

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).



"Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church"



"oelc_osseo"



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.

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



TRI COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

3rd Saturday of the Month

At Osseo Rural Fire Station behind Stockman's

10:00-11:00 am

OELC is partnering with the Tri-County Food Pantry to make a limited supply of free food and personal hygiene items, including feminine period products, available to anyone in need between the monthly distribution dates. The Food Pantry will stock items in the Mini-Pantry cabinet just inside the south doors (by the office) and anyone is welcome to come get items whenever the church is open. Please spread the news to others who might make use of this.



FYI: Ruby's Pantry

2nd Tuesday of the month

4:00-5:30pm

Next distribution is March 14th at the Osseo Fire Station. Volunteers needed anytime between 2:00-6:30pm.

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. Text "OELC" to 73256
& follow the prompts
3. Mail your offering envelope to:
OELC
50351 Harmony Street
Osseo, WI 54758

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"

Did you know?

If you go to OELC's homepage (oelc.org), the bulletin is available for every service

March Worship Assistant Schedule

Date	Time	Acolyte & Crucifer	Lector	Communion Servers
March 1 st	6:00pm	Gauge B. & Abby H.		
March 5 th	8:15am	George C. & Kole B.	Stacy H.	Amy & Brent Mc., Amanda C.
	10:45am	Emerick K. & Tyler S.	Michael S.	Jennifer & Michael S., Betty W.
March 8 th	6:00pm	Kiearra S. & Blake J.		
March 12 th	8:15am	Noah & Izaiah G.	Val L.	
	10:45am	Drew H. & Jianna S.	Bev F.	
March 15 th	6:00pm	Sara G. & Gauge B.		
March 19 th	8:15am	Kole B. & Emerick K.	Jeff D.	
	10:45am	Ty S. & Gabe K.	Cathy H.	
March 22 nd	6:00pm	Noah K. & Dalton C.		
March 26 th	8:15am	Izaiah G. & Drew H.	Amanda C.	Vern & Becky L., Amanda C.
	10:45am	Ben & Emmett S.	Cindy H.	Cindy H. & Betty W.
March 29 th	6:00pm	Kiearra S. & Sara G.		

Noisy Offering to Support Osseo Elementary School Lunches

Our noisy offering in the past has been designated by our Worship Committee for the O-F Elementary School Lunch Program. Our noisy offering is received in the large metal bucket hanging in the sanctuary every last Sunday of the month. Thank you for your consideration of our Noisy Offering ministry.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL 2023

March 12th – 8:15 – 4K-4th Grade sing at worship service

April 9th – Easter Break – No Sunday School

May 21st - ***9:00am*** - All Grades Sing

Please note the time of the worship service

Last day of Sunday School. Kids will go with their teachers after the children's sermon and be done with class by 10:00am.



March 12th



REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR LUTHER PARK SUMMER CAMP! CAMPERSHIPS AVAILABLE!!!

Looking for the experience for your kid(s) this summer??? Look no further as Luther Park Bible Camp makes a wonderful experience, while encouraging faith formation.

Youth completing grades 1 through 12 can attend camp this summer at Luther Park in Chetek, WI. Outdoor camping ministry is a great way for your child to grow in their faith and learn more about how God is at work in their lives. Please visit the camp's website at www.lutherpark.org for more information.

Through the generosity of our congregation, camperships are available to help defray the cost of your child's camping experience. We firmly believe that any child who would like to go to camp will be able to attend, regardless of their family's financial situation.



Confirmation Information:

Confirmation Classes are suspended during the season of Lent. Students are expected to attend Mid-Week Lenten Worship Services.

Soup Suppers – Confirmation students will be scheduled to work at least 1 soup supper along with an adult to help with clean-up.

- March 1st: Sara, Drew, Jianna, Sophie
- March 8th: Tyler, Gauge, Dalton, Izzy
- March 15th: Izaiah, Noah, Kiearra
- March 22nd: Abby, Emerick, Aidan
- March 29th: Blake, Ty, Lexi

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)

- 10:45 worship service



Senior High YOUTH:

At the last two youth group meetings I heard comments about how we need more people to attend. I agree! The best way to have that happen is for YOU to invite friends and come together!

We typically meet on the second Sunday of the month (so March 12) from 6-8pm, usually in the Youth Room or by the fire pit in the back. Some months we'll have special events planned, other months it's a time to relax and not have to worry about anything in particular. If there's something you think would be a fun event, either at or away from church, let me know. Food is always provided.



A new Facebook group page has been created to share prayer concerns. The group is called Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Prayer Group and is a closed group, meaning people must request to join. This is an effort to make the page a safe space for sharing concerns and prayers with trusted people who will respect confidentiality. If you'd like to join, feel free to send a request.



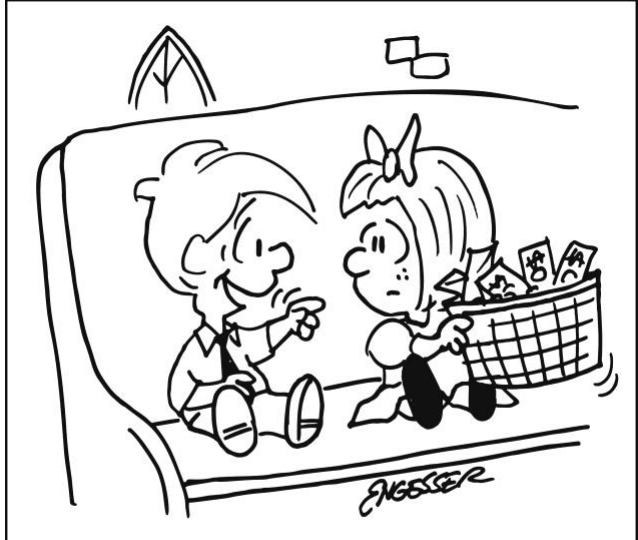
Spring Forward
March 12th, 2023



"I made a New Year's resolution to eat broccoli. If I can't stand it, I'll give it up for Lent."



"My husband won't miss me 'til he realizes I have the remote."



"I put in a jelly bean for pastor."

PUZZLE

No kidding

Whatever our age, God calls us to model holy living for others.



Directions: Match the animal young with its parent. Then write the letter answers in order below to complete 1 Timothy 4:12, NIV.



- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. ___ bear | 9. ___ monkey | A. fry | I. hatchling |
| 2. ___ frog | 10. ___ platypus | B. fawn | K. foal |
| 3. ___ owl | 11. ___ alligator | C. gosling | L. owlet |
| 4. ___ horse | 12. ___ giraffe | D. cub | M. puggle |
| 5. ___ kangaroo | 13. ___ goose | E. kid | N. joey |
| 6. ___ deer | 14. ___ swan | F. cygnet | O. polliwog |
| 7. ___ goat | 15. ___ dog | G. infant | P. puppy |
| 8. ___ fish | | H. calf | |

"_on't let any_ne _oo_ down o_ you _ecaus_
 you _re youn_, but set an exa_ ple for the bel_ evers
 in spec_, in _onduct, in love, in _aith and in _urity."

1 TIMOTHY 4:12, NIV

Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church
50351 Harmony Street
Osseo, WI 54758-7395
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715-597-3213

www.oelc.org & oelc@trwest.net

Please join us for Sunday Worship

Sundays

8:15 & 10:45

Wednesdays

9:00 meal; 6:00 Service

9:00am (Summer)

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.