



Monthly Newsletter of
Osseo
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church

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

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

CHRISTMAS SEASON AT OELC

Sunday, December 18th

Sunday School Christmas Program
10:45a.m. – it will be livestreamed!

Saturday, December 24th

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services
4:30 (livestreamed) & 6:30

Sunday, December 25th

Christmas Day Worship Service
9:00a.m.

Church Office Closed Monday, Dec. 26th

Friday, December 30th

The church office closes at Noon. Please have your end of year offering to the church office by 11:30a.m.

YEAR-END OFFERING

Sunday, January 1st, 2023

Happy New Year!!!
Lessons & Carols Worship Service
9:00a.m.



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@trivest.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 Hours:

8-4 - Mon.-Thurs.
8-Noon - Friday
8-Noon - Sunday



“You put one hand over the other...you know, like you’re making your hands into a little cradle to receive Christ as a human born among us.”

It’s a humble, unpretentious response to a staggering act of love initiated by the Author of the universe. The gospel writer John records the other John (the Baptizer) declaring that at the very moment the newborn Jesus Christ drew his first breath among us *“the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.”* and the manner in which humankind relates to God Almighty has been forever changed.

I find myself most often saying it to the children of God who are taking part in our First Communion class here at OELC. Come to God’s table, lift up your heads, open your hands wide, place them one over the other and prepare to receive what is holy, God incarnate.

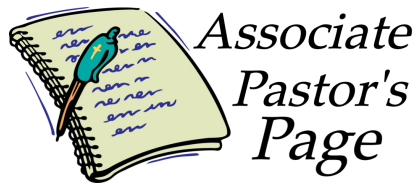
It is a unique claim made by most all of Christianity - that God became one of us and experienced all that we can experience,

yet he was without sin. I suggest that incarnation broadens our consideration of all that goes into celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. The incarnation of God makes all things that are of this world holy.

Certainly all things that have been created by God are holy but all things, including the whole of a divine being living as a fully human being, have been made holy by the presence of God in Jesus Christ in our world.

Let me try to put this in a more humble, unpretentious way. This Christmas simply put one hand over the other...you know, like a cradle and receive the Christmas letters & cards, the cookies, the wonderful music, the opportunity to care for and include others, the unexpected gifts...and, of course, the body and blood of God incarnate whose holiness is present among us still.

God’s peace and joy to all,



When I first arrived at OELC in September of 2021, I had meetings with both adults and youth to hear their thoughts on where the youth program should go. The unanimous opinion was to re-connect with Appalachia Service Project and get a mission trip planned. We were able to send nine youth and four adults to Kentucky this past July. Preparations are already underway for a 2023 mission trip, scheduled for June 25 to July 2. While we won't know our destination until the spring, ASP's theme for summer 2023 has been announced: "Love strong." The theme is taken from Luke 10:27:

"He said, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.'"

These words are often called "The Greatest Commandment," since that's how Jesus used them in Matthew and Mark. But in this particular passage, the "He said" doesn't refer to Jesus. It's an expert in Jewish law who asked Jesus a question, Jesus responded by asking what the scriptures say, and the man answers with the verse above. The law expert then asks Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" prompting the parable of the Good Samaritan.

As I thought about ASP's choice of using this passage versus the "Greatest Commandment" stories, I was struck by the poignancy. I think we can find a deep connection between this Luke text and what an ASP mission trip is all about. The expert is trying to narrow the category of "neighbor," since if our neighbor is more like us, it's easier to love them. Samaritans as a group were viewed negatively by Jews, and any individual would be judged based on the feelings about the group. The Samaritan was an unlikely hero compared to the priest and the Levite, who as "religious people" and Jews would be expected to give care. The Samaritan performed tangible actions and used his own money to give aid and offered to do more if needed.

We all have our definition of neighbor. It may mean folks next door or within a couple blocks, and they generally are a lot like us. It rarely stretches for the 800 miles between Osseo and Kentucky. Many people have pre-conceived notions about the families ASP serves, most of those images negative, and individuals are often judged based on the whole group. I, for one, am a very unlikely person to offer home construction, but it's a tangible act I can perform in service to others.

At the end of the parable, Jesus turns the expert's question "Who is my neighbor?" sideways. Rather than giving a direct answer, Jesus asks the man, "Which of these do you think was [i.e., acted like] a neighbor" to the man on the road? When the expert answers "The one who showed him mercy," Jesus says, "Go and do likewise." If you or someone you know is a youth in grades 9-12 in 2022-2023 and want to "go and do likewise" with us next June, or if you have questions about the ASP trip, please contact me right away. We have room for some adult chaperones as well!

Blessings,

Pastor Dave

Pastor Dave Hoadley - 763-221-1928 - pastordave54758@gmail.com

7 Psalms for 7 Weeks

Regular Wednesday Worship will resume on January 4th, 2023 at 6 p.m. in our chapel

We will spend the 7 weeks we have between the beginning of another year and the beginning of the season of Lent on a journey through the bible's collection of songs of praise we know as the Book of Psalms. I invite you to come and consider the faithfulness, doubt, confidence, and candor expressed by God's people throughout this oft considered longest book in all of scripture. Each week we will explore a new category of psalms allowing us to base our worship on the topics of: hymns, laments, thanksgiving, royalty, enthronement, penitential, and wisdom.

Our Wednesday Worship experience is condensed to 30 to 40 minutes and perfect for confirmands and their families who are trying to find a place to worship in their busy lives, for folks looking for another meaningful way in which to feed their faith midway through the week, and for anyone who simply enjoys learning more about God's holy word.

I hope to see you on a Wednesday evening soon,
Pastor Terry Lorenz



Order your POINSETTIA(S) today! Every Christmas season, OELC members decorate around the church and in the sanctuary with red poinsettias which add to the beauty of God's house and enhance the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Please consider ordering a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone(s) you love, cherish, and want to remember this Christmas season.

Large Poinsettias = \$25/ea.

Regular Poinsettias = \$12/ea.

Please order by Dec. 5th

The order form is on the sign-up table outside the office. You are welcome to take your plant home after the holidays.

**2022 Midweek ADVENT
Worship Services at 6 p.m.**

Wednesday, December 7th

Experience Wonder

Wednesday, December 14th

Hold on to Hope

Wednesday, December 21st

God's Faithfulness

~No Meals during Advent~

**Annual Meeting is
Sunday, January 29th, 2023
~9:30am~
Between services in the
Fellowship Hall**

2022-2023 Church Dates-to-Remember

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

- 1st Lessons & Carols at 9am (No Communion)
- 4th Wednesday Meal & Worship resumes
- 8th, 15th, & 22nd - 1st 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

- 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 for Mother's Day (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.nswwi.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.



WELCA Christmas Buffet

Wednesday, Dec. 7th

Noon

This year we are inviting men to join us for the buffet & singing. We also encourage everyone to invite a friend or two. During this time of holiday fellowship, we will sing Christmas Carols, reveal Prayer Partners & exchange gifts, and choose new prayer partners for the coming year.

Games and Fun	
	Jig-saw puzzles Board games Puzzle books Dominoes Cards Jenga Chess Scrabble Backgammon Word Search Large-print Books Adult Coloring Books Audio Books with a CD Player Bags of Candy or Snacks to Share
Toiletries	
	Lip Balm Lotion Scented Soap Deodorant Body Spray Comb set Aftershave Cosmetics Tissues
Writing & Art Supplies	
	Stationery Envelopes Blank Cards Postcards Greeting Cards for upcoming holidays Stamps Address Book filled out with Family Addresses Quality Pens Art kits with safe supplies Knitting and crochet materials Sketchpad and drawing utensils
Decor	
	Attractive Blankets Fleece Throws Framed Photos Digital Photo Frame Wall or Desk Calendar
Clothing	
	Bathrobe Nightgown Slippers Shawls Wraps Seasonal or Soft Socks Fuzzy Socks with Grips Button-up sweaters

Ideas for TCHCC residents

We hope you provide gifts to:

- 🎄 Mitten tree (for Osseo Elementary)
- 🧤 Trempealeau County Health Care Center
- 🎁 Tri County Food Pantry



Let's collect this much food or more!



Let's cover our tree like this one!

December Birthdays

- 1 Mark Consigny, Alyssa Hagberg
- 2 Garret Bratsven, Ethan Fremstad, Brittany Minshall, Drew Vold
- 3 Chelsey Ashwell, Anthony Larson
- 4 Tim Abley, Ann Bechard, Gerry Bodway, Jolie Kuehn
- 5 Avery Nicolet
- 6 Orion Hestekin, LeAnne Hugdahl, Torri Shimon
- 7 Penelope Boortz, Jan Indrebo, Janelle Hestekin, Sue Rosenthal
- 8 Matt Korger, Elli Larson, Jill Nelson
- 9 Mark Vold & Gus Vold
- 10 Tammy Dahl, Mary Gunderson
- 11 Tryggve Korger
- 12 Makayla Blattner, Susan Consigny, Joseph Cuddy
- 13 Ella Bischoff, Danielle Langner, Shey Whited
- 14 Orion Prudlick, JoAnn Rongstad, Scott Vold
- 15 Larry Husom, Mona Vold Jacobson, Nick Jacobson
- 17 Jamie Fremstad, Betty Ward
- 18 Mary Allen, Wyatt Felber
- 19 Jennifer Bothe, Eileen Fremstad, Henry Mach, Tom Peterson
- 20 Jase Barney, Debbie Kelly, Bradley Moldenhauer
- 21 Alysha Jordahl, Gordy Hong, Kelly Vold, Patsy Walswick
- 22 Samantha Krienke
- 23 Aaron Hagberg, Megan Merritt, Graham Tiller
- 24 Marceil Gunderson, Dave Iverson
- 25 Baby Jesus, Logan Boettcher, Seymour Larson, Taylor Nelson, Connor Wilkinson
- 27 Kenneth Gabler, Carrie Ness, Dan Newman, Gerald Schaefer
- 28 Cody Carlstrom, Alexis Ness, Zach Williams
- 29 Rylee Bratina, Hunter Brixen, Linda Ness, Karlee Olson

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



Quilting Ministry

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.



Sunday Morning Bible Study

Retired Pastor Donna Fonner and Pastor Terry take turns leading weekly sessions in the Family Room.

Topics of discussion will be:

- ♦ The Ten Commandments
- ♦ The Apostles' Creed
- ♦ The Lord's Prayer
- ♦ The Sacraments
- ♦ Holy Baptism
- ♦ Holy Communion
- ♦ The Office of the Keys
- ♦ Confession & Forgiveness

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

General Operating Fund

Income & Expense Report—Through November 29, 2022
With Comparison to 2021 & Annual Budget

Income	2022	2021		
All offerings	221,083	199,040		
Other Gen.	45,231	39,595		
	266,314	238,635		
Expenses	2022	2021	Annual Budget Remaining	YTD %
Misc.	14,076	12,862	0	0
Pastoral Staff	203,714	136,687	34,626	86%
Non-Pastoral Staff	67,697	73,541	14,767	82%
Worship & Music	2,769	3,527	731	79%
Ministries & Committees	2,091	1,432	1,609	57%
Church Property	39,603	35,142	4,697	89%
Parsonage	6,898	7,146	1,602	81%
Admin/Office	7,280	6,934	1,470	83%
	347,128	277,271		

YTD Total Income: \$266,314
YTD Total Expenses: \$347,128
Income Less Expenses: (\$80,814)

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).



“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.

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!



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.

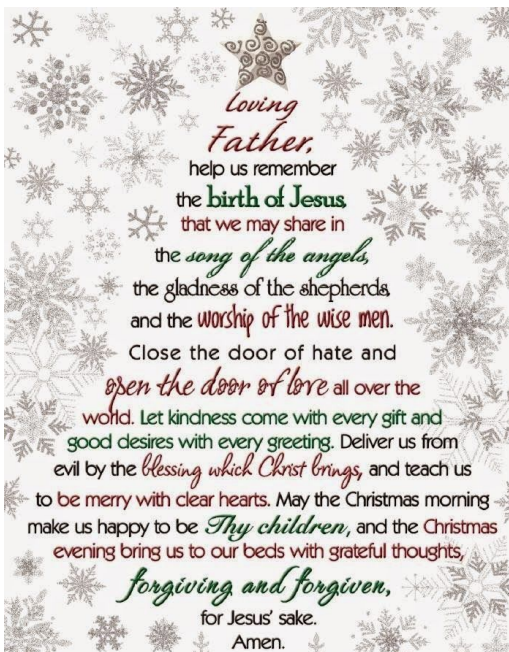


FYI: Ruby's Pantry

2nd Tuesday of the month

4:00-5:30pm

Next distribution is Dec. 13th 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"

December Worship Assistant Schedule

Date	Time	Acolyte & Crucifer	Lector	Communion Servers
December 4 th	8:15am	Drew H. & Aidan E.	Vern L.	Vern & Becky L., Donna F.
	10:45am	Dalton & George C.	Jon S.	Jon & Sharon S., Jody G.
December 11 th	8:15am	Tyler & Emmett S.	Jamie L.	
	10:45am	Emerick K. & Kole B.	Cathy H.	
December 18 th	8:15am	Ty S. & Gabe K.	Betty W.	
	10:45am	Gauge B. & McKenzie M.	Sunday School Kids	
December 24 th	4:30pm		Amanda C.	Amanda C., Lisa S., Volunteer
	6:30pm		Volunteers	Needed
December 25 th	9:00am		Volunteers	Needed
January 1 st	9:00am		Donna F.	Donna & Chris F., Val L.

Noisy Offering to Support Osseo Ministerial

Our noisy offering for today has been designated by our Worship Committee for the Osseo Ministerial. This is a community fund established by a number of area churches and maintained by OELC. The purpose of the ministerial is to help both sojourners and area residents who are in need of gas money, groceries, lodging, etc. It has been structured in such a way so as to be able to respond quickly to requests in order to help those in need without delay. This has been a blessing numerous times to people who find themselves in need due to unforeseen circumstances, tragedy, weather, or other emergency needs. 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 2022-2023

- December 18th – 10:45 – Christmas Program for ALL Grades;
Sunday School is at 9:30
- December 25th – Christmas Break – No Sunday School
- January 1st – Christmas Break – No Sunday School
- January 8th – 9:30 – Sunday School resumes for all grades
- January 8th, 15th, & 22nd – First Communion for all 4th Graders
during the Sunday School hour
- February 5th – 4th Graders receive First Communion at 8:15 service
- February 12th – 8:15 – 4K-4th Grade sing at worship service
- 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.

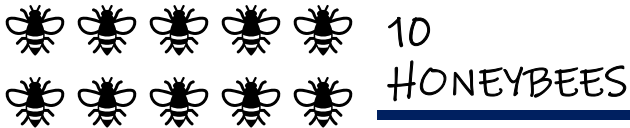
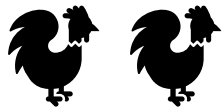


**OELC raised
\$2,180 in animals!!!**

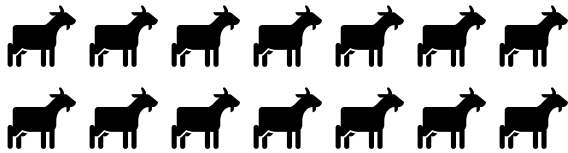


1
COW

2
ROOSTERS



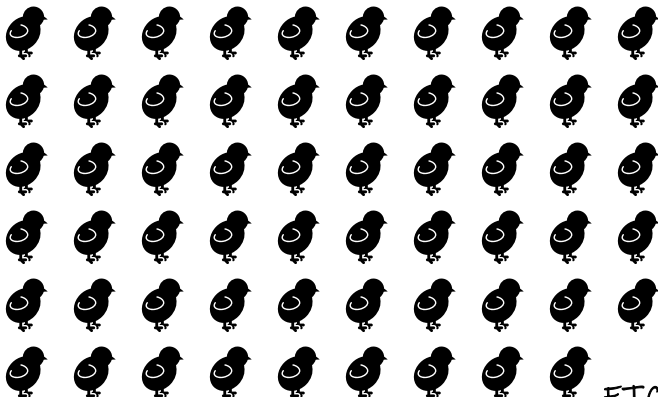
10
HONEYBEES



14 GOATS



15
PIGS



ETC...

20 FLOCKS OF CHICKS

Do you use SIMPLY GIVING???

If yes, we need to talk. OELC will be discontinuing Simply Giving at the end of the year. The transition will be easy, and nothing will change except for how the money is recorded in the church office. I will be giving you a new form to fill out. I will answer all questions and help anyone set-up their new giving system. If you choose to let me, do it for you, you will have to do nothing. If you want more control of your recurring giving (i.e., add \$5 each month☺), you will have more to do. The options are somewhat endless in providing your offerings to OELC.

Simply Giving Users: You'll be hearing from me soon ~ Molly

Important Confirmation Dates:

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

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)

- 10:45 worship service



TCC E-Mail Transition Let OELC know your NEW E-Mail Address, please.

With TCC discontinuing their residential e-mail addresses by the end of 2022, anyone who has changed their email address needs to let the church office know your new address.

Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church
50351 Harmony Street
Osseo, WI 54758-7395
Address Service Requested
* DATED MATERIAL *

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PARISH VISITOR
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www.oelc.org | oelc@trivest.net
Please join us for Sunday Worship
Sundays
8:15 & 10:45
Wednesdays
5:00 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.