

Monthly Newsletter of

Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

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

ANNUAL HEING

Sunday, January 29th ~9:30am~ Fellowship Hall

Annual report booklets will be available in the office on Wednesday, Jan. 25th after 10am.

4th Grade Students!!!

First Communion class during Sunday School Hour: Sundays, January 8th, 15th & 22nd

Receive 1st Communion: Sunday, February 5th



Church Staff

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

Associate Pastor: Dave Hoadley Pastordave54758@gmail.com 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 Sheila Nelson

<u>Financial Assistants</u>: 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



... For Auld Lang Syne

It's a long running part of my tradition for ringing in the New Year. But then again, there aren't really that many parts to my typical New Year's celebration: a nice meal with friends, a prayer of thanksgiving for what has been, a toast to what is to come, and then before calling it a year a run down of the list of celebrities who have died in the past year. I know - what a party animal right?

As I recall the first year I started taking note of who perished in the current waning year was my senior year of high school. Back then it was mostly notable people I had been informally introduced to mostly through my mother's taste in TV shows, books, movies and music.

As time went by the well known departees became better and better known to me through my own interests and experiences and these days when I check the annual list I notice that age is quickly becoming a more common denominator.

I'm not sure why I feel the cumulative effect of a year's worth of loss so strongly for people that I've never even met. Earlier in life it seemed to me the passing of people who seemed larger than life was somehow more significant. As I have gotten older, and occasionally wiser, I have come to realize that we all, celebrity status or not, seek an answer to the same question. It's the same question that the songwriter or poet who first penned the above phrase struggled with while tyrying to articulate a common concern - will anyone remember us when we're gone from this world.

"Should auld (old) aquiantence be forgot and never be brought to mind?" is the ubiquitous question that begins the familiar New Year's Eve tune. Will anyone remember us and the times we shared when we are gone from this world?

Certainly family, friends and others will remember us...until they too are gone. More than one person has noted that once everyone who ever knew and remembered you is gone it is as if you never existed for no one is left to remember you.

I wonder if this is what motivated the better of the two criminals to ask of Jesus Christ, who hung next to him on a cross, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Whether at the end of a year or at the end of a lifetime the need to know we somehow matter to another can be as powerful as all the other needs we know in this world. I've come to view the gift of a new year as a great and wonderful Christmas present. For in the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ (Emmanuel) don't we look back and remember what God has done while, at the same time, strain to look forward to imagine what is to come? And isn't what is to come a continuation of a simple covenant initiated by God, "I love you, you will always matter to me, you are mine, and I will remember you forever."

A blessed and meaningful 2023 to all,

Rev. Lany Low



I don't think I make a habit of lamenting some long-lost item from the past. I enjoy memories as much as anyone else, but I've learned to separate history, recalling the past, and nostalgia, trying to hold onto or recreate the past. But one piece of the past I miss is the old odometer found in cars. There was something special about watching as it got close to a landmark number like 50000.0 or even 100000.0 (which in early cars meant it was back to 000000.0).

At some point, I realized that, while 50000.0 was cool, 42,957.3 was also a unique number. Just because all the dials weren't rolling over didn't make the number less novel. As you read this, the dials on our world have recently turned to read 2023.0. Not an exciting number to look at, perhaps, but a number that is unique, one we've never had before and won't see again.

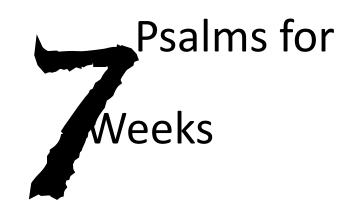
I'm not a fan of New Year's resolutions since they often lead to self-disappointment, which then can smother what I think is our daily challenge of being better than the day before. And "experts" may have lots of predictions about 2023, but we have no idea what will happen in these twelve months. In January of 2020, few could have imagined what mid-March would bring. If past experience holds, the world, our nation, our communities and each of us as individuals will have our share of joys and challenges this year.

The Epiphany season in 2023 runs from January 6, the Day of Epiphany, through February 21, which is Shrove Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent). During Epiphany we celebrate how God revealed Jesus as Messiah to the world and remind ourselves of the ways Jesus revealed himself as God's Son. This is a time we can be reassured of God's presence amid whatever we experience, a promise made evident in the person of Jesus. It's also a time we can be reassured that, come what may, we are part of the family of God, both as individual daughters and sons of the Creator and as fellow sisters and brothers in this family called OELC. We are called to share our faith with the world outside the walls of the church and at the same time to welcome in and embrace those who enter them. We rejoice together and we weep together, we comfort and encourage, we share meals in Fellowship Hall and are invited to the Lord's meal at the altar twice a month. We may sometimes disagree, sometimes act decidedly "un-Christian," sometimes make a holy mess of things. It's then we seek the courage to admit our sins and shortcomings and hold onto the hope of forgiveness and grace from one another and the promise of forgiveness and grace from God.

I've beat this drum before: the church stretches beyond the physical boundaries of the building. God's presence is in all places. But being involved with the family of OELC gives an important extra ingredient to our faith. You might feel a need for others; you might be just what someone else needs. As the odometer works toward 2024.0, I invite you to consider what you can bring the family this year.

Blessings, Pastor Dave

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



Regular Wednesday Worship will resume on January 4th,

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,

Women of the ELCA FREE Resources

Lutheran women have a long history of Bible study, discipleship, and desire to deepen their spiritual life and learn about issues. Through various program areas, Women of the ELCA's community of women provide services in their churches, communities and even the world. We engage in ministry; we take action through advocacy; we promote healing and wholeness, and we support one another in our callings. We offer antiracism training; address domestic violence, commercial sexual exploitation, and human trafficking; and support families with special needs. We assist participants in their desire to discern God's call in their lives and to discover their spiritual gifts through workshops, retreats, resources, scholarships, and global education. We offer grants to not-for-profit organizations, both domestic and international, that support healing and wholeness for women of all ages through the affirmation and advancement of women's emotional, physical, and spiritual health.

Join us as we make a difference in the world. Join us at any of our events or take advantage of our free resources.

• Daily Grace is a daily faith reflection. Sign up at www.womenoftheelca.org/blog/category/dialy-grace.

- Café is an award-winning online magazine for young women of faith and their friends and is available at www.boldcafe.org.
- Daily Grace and Café are just two of the dozens of free online resources that Women of the ELCA has been offering for women throughout the church ever since our website first went live back in 1995. Check out our library of free downloadable resources (more than 80 by now) at

www.womenoftheelca/resources or www.womenoftheelca.org/publications and www.gathermagazine.org/bible-study/free-bible-studies/.

Women of the ELCA offers so much more than free downloadable resources and e-newsletters. Women throughout the church have found common purpose and supportive friends through the organization, and they know how precious those connections are. Have you found these resources and connections valuable, too? We're glad! There are two things you can do to help us keep these resources always free to use. Tell your friends and if you can, please make a generous gift designated "Where Needed Most" at community.elca.org/welca.

2022-2023 Church Dates-to-Remember

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

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.

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 – 16^{th} of the month

Noisy Offering – Last Sunday of month

OELC Annual Meeting – Last Sunday in January

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

Quilting – 2nd & 4th 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 – 3rd Saturday of month

Women's Bible Study – 3^{rd} Wednesday of month

***Some dates change due to scheduling conflicts, holidays, or other factors.

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.

Is it your new year's resolution to be more involved at your church??? Stop by the church office today and we'll your church??? Stop by the opportunities at OELC!

guide you to all the opportunities at OELC!

Resolutions

2023 Annual Giving Appeal: Build Relationships with God & With One Another

"The grace of Jesus moves us to fearlessly join God in loving the world."

When we look at the needs around us, this mission has never been more important. Each person is critical as we at OELC that:

- works toward creating a welcome that is inclusive.
- addresses community needs through outreach such as Tri County Food Pantry and Adopt-a-Highway.
- builds our relationship with God through faith formation and worship.
- strengthens relationships with one another through fellowship and learning.
- joyfully collaborates with ecumenical and ELCA partners in ministry.
- expands opportunities to help parents teach a faith-filled life to their children.

We realize that this has been a year filled with uncertainties. If you are having any difficulties, we hope you will reach out to your church family. We thank you for your commitment to OELC ministries. If you are able, please consider your annual offering to OELC so we can enhance our ministries for the upcoming year. In addition, your prayers and involvement are needed as we revitalize the youth & family programming, Senior Citizen activities and our community outreach.

If you have been away from worship, come and see what God has been doing at OELC. We invite you to join us in a Spirit-led mission that will testify to God's love and grace.

General Operating Fund

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

<u>Income</u>	2022	2021		
All offerings	264,706	249,164		
Other Gen.	37,914	<u> 35,836</u>		
	306,620	285,000		
			Annual	
<u>Expenses</u>	2022	2021	Budget	YTD %
			Remaining	
Misc.	14,739	14,213	0	0
Pastoral Staff	225,306	150,955	16,036	93%
Non-Pastoral	76,167	74,403	6,295	92%
Staff				
Worship & Music	2,769	3,674	731	79%
Ministries	2,246	1,938	1,454	61%
& Committees				
Church Property	45,990	40,060	(1,690)	103%
Parsonage	7,009	7,830	1,491	82%
Admin/Office	<u>8,159</u>	<u>7,650</u>	591	93%
	382,385	300,723		

YTD Total Income: \$302,620 YTD Total Expenses: \$382,385 Income Less Expenses: (\$79,765)

GOOD NEWS & BAD NEWS:

Good News: OELC began the year with a surplus from the sale of the small parsonage. Although our expenses were much higher than our revenues, we should still finish 2022 with money in the General Fund.

Bad News: OELC's giving needs to increase around \$7,000 a month in 2023 to remain in the black.

What do we do?
Come to the Annual Meeting on January 29th to get the full report. Start thinking how you can help increase OELC's giving.



- 1 Terri Swett
- 3 Ruth Anderson
- 4 Theo Hoffman, Tyler Langner, Lori Rongstad, Lester Bratsven, Heather Nix, George Clark
- 5 Cassandra Stibor
- 6 Nathan Stanek, Megan Gaulke, Marissa Gaulke, Bennett Kuehn
- 7 Marilyn Balliett, Anna Cuddy, Adam Julson
- 8 Lester Pederson
- 9 Serenity Knudtson, Ernie Vold
- 10 Ethan Kittelson, Mackenzie Scheller
- 11 Jenny Zimmerman
- 12 Megan Zimmerman, Madison Hugdahl
- 13 Linda Dahl, Kalynn Dewitz
- 14 Waylen Killian, Mary Severson, Jon Steinke
- 17 Mason Cuddy-Ness, LueAnn Schaefer, Jessica Mach, Jennifer Bosher, Piper Bertrang, Hayden Bertrang
- 18 Adelyn Helland, Tina Severson, Molly Vold Rosemary Hegland, Barbara Hageness,
- 19 Brandon Boettcher, Aliza Hollister
- 20 Trevor Holmen, Jill Lane, Carol Zimmerman, Caitlyn Carlstrom
- 21 Noah Green, Jamie Lindell, Charles Fremstad, Bryce Haas
- 22 Jane Johnson, Ann Hallum
- 23 Emma Fremstad
- 24 Kevin Welke, Anna Boortz, Alex Vold, Jack Steinke
- 25 Sylvia Haugen, Kaylee Mouw
- 27 Jack Swenson, Breckyn Sass, Kelsey Higley
- 28 Isaac Iverson, Darcey Halvorson
- 31 Julie Dewitz, David Hageness, Elenore Gunem
- *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 Ten Commandments
- The Apostles' Creed
- The Lord's Prayer
- The Sacraments
- Holy Baptism
- Holy Communion
- The Office of the Keys
- Confession & Forgiveness

Rihle study will take nlace hetween worshin

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@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 Jan. 10th 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:

- 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 (oele.org), the bulletin is available, for every service

January Worship Assistant Schedule

Date	Time	Acolyte & Crucifer	Lector	Communion Servers	
January 8 th	8:15am	Dalton & George	Vern L.	AV ANTS	
	10:45am	Abby & Lexi	Cathy H.		
January 15 th	8:15am	Ben & Emmett	Val L.		
	10:45am	Ty & Aidan	Michael S.		
January 22 nd	8:15am	Kole & Jianna	Jill W.	~See Molly	
	10:45am	Izaiah & Noah G.	Jennifer S.		
January 29 th	8:15am	Drew & Kiearra	Sharon J.	Deb G., Sharon J., Val L.	
	10:45am	Sara & Emerick	Amanda C.	Lisa S., Amanda C., Betty W.	

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 2023

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 21^{st} - ***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.



REGISTRATION OPENING SOON FOR LUTHER PARK SUMMER CAMP!

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.



Do you use SIMPLY GIVING???

If yes, we need to talk & you haven't done so already, please contact me. We are switching everyone from Simply Giving to On-line Giving. We are still using the same company that processed the payments, but I will not have to manually enter all the simply giving transactions. I just need your permission to make this change. Call, email or visit me today!

~ 715-597-3213 ~ oelc@triwest.net ~

Important Confirmation Dates:

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. The dates are all the Wednesdays in March (1, 8, 15, 22, 29).

Soup suppers are 4:45-6:00pm with Lenten Worship Service at 6:00.

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 email addresses, anyone who has changed their email address needs to let the church office know your new address.



PARISH VISITOR

www.oelc.org 1 oelc@triwest.net 6176-266-612 Osseo, M 54758 50351 Harmony Street Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church to the newsletter of

Please join us for Sunday Worship

64:01 3 61:8 shepunS

9:00am (Summer) 5:00 meal; 6:00 Service Mednesdays

Associate Pastor: David Moadley Pastor: Terry Lorenz

to <u>love</u> our neighbors as ourselves, to Jesus Christ, to share our faith and bring people Our Mission at OELC:

and to minister to the needs of ALL people.

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