



ORFORDVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

210 N. Main Street, Orfordville, WI 53576

Office Phone #: (608) 879-2575

Office Email: office@orfordvillelutheran.org

Pastor Andy's Phone #: (608) 886-0546

Pastor Andy's Email: pastor@orfordvillelutheran.org

NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2016

FROM PASTOR ANDY TWITON:

“But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’”

- Luke 2:10-12

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Some of you may remember the words of the Annunciation and Mary's Song from *Holden Evening Prayer*: “An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, “Rejoice, O Highly Favored, for God is with you! You shall bear a child and his name shall be Jesus...”

One of the most moving experiences of our recent trip to the Holy Land was singing this song from *Holden Evening Prayer* at the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth. We were singing about the Annunciation at the spot on earth where Mary heard the angel's message. I thought of our congregation singing this song of good news in Orfordville, and I thought of young Mary hearing this amazing promise. It's enough to give you chills!

As we approach the Christmas season, I pray that you will be renewed in your faith. This is a story worth pondering in your heart. It's a story of God's love and grace that has the power to transform lives and change our world.

Join us during this Christmas season in praising God for the gift of Jesus. And reach out to those in need of hope and love. (Christmas is a good season to invite friends and family to church.)

Rejoice, Favored Ones! God is with you!

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Andy Twiton



Pastor Andy and Kristin at the Sea of Galilee

HISTORY CORNER

By Lyle Amundson

Orfordville Lutheran Church will celebrate its 150th Anniversary as a congregation in 2018. In the coming months, we will include snippets of our church's history. Together we will celebrate God's faithfulness to us and our ancestors in faith!

Continuing with the History of the OLC Parsonages

The first church was built in 1871 at a cost of \$6,500, with much donated labor by the congregation. The altar painting "Det er Fuldbragt" (It is Finished) was donated by Rev. Magelssen. The church was dedicated spring, 1872. June 3, 1872, the congregation authorized Knud Thoen to make an agreement with builder Anderson of Janesville to build a church gate. Also, a church porch is to be built in the front of the church. The church bell was purchased in 1875. This bell now hangs at the south end of our parish hall. Gradual use of English language was introduced in the church in 1900.

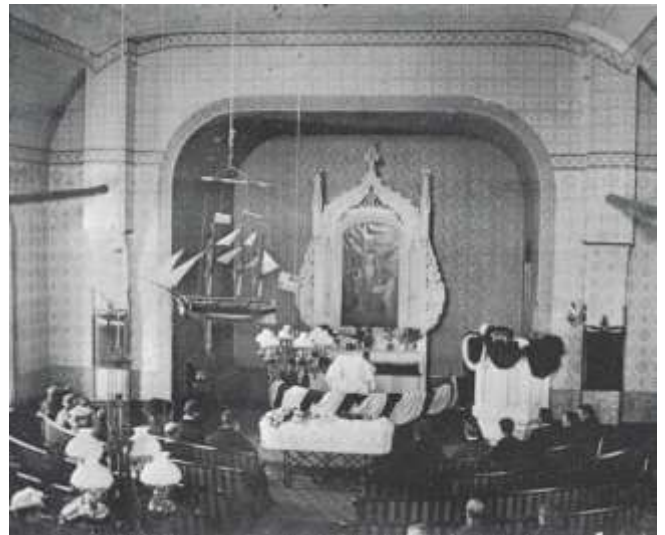
A parish hall was built at the east end of the church in 1906. This became known as the Gimmestead Room. Stained glass windows were installed and dedicated in the church in 1912, containing 20 names of some of the charter members of the congregation. There were two names on each of ten windows. Nine sets of names presently hang just inside the front entrance to the present parish hall. The missing set contained the names Aadne Aadnesen and Christian Ommelstad.

Major renovation was done to the church in 1915. The first electric lights were installed in the church. "Needlecraft" group was active from 1911 to 1920, under the direction of Mrs. Kvale. This group probably sewed the Anderson Quilt which hangs in our Narthex today. The Needlecraft group donated a new altar painting, "Thy Will Be Done" in 1915, as part of the renovation. This painting hangs above our altar today.



1909 Photo
Note Parish Hall in rear
& Porch in front

Funeral in original church
with original altar and painting



UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Adult Education Conversation – Sunday, December 4th after Worship

Several people have expressed interest in providing more adult education opportunities at OLC. During fellowship time, we'll meet at the table to gather and discuss Adult Education at OLC over coffee and treats. Pastor Andy, Lee Bohnhoff, and Tony Ends have been looking at a few potential books we could use for discussion, but we would like some input on what people are interested in. Come and share your opinions! All ideas and questions are welcome!

Church Council Meeting – Monday, December 5th at 6:30 p.m.

The Church Council will be holding their monthly meeting on Monday, December 5th at 6:30 p.m.

Senior Luncheon – Tuesday, December 6th

The Orfordville Community will be holding their monthly senior luncheon on Tuesday, December 6th. The meal will start at 11:30 a.m. in OLC's fellowship hall. This month's menu will be *Finger Foods and Sweet Treats*; followed by music with Bill & Bonnie.

Gifts of Love – December 8, 9, & 10

The local churches are sponsoring this opportunity to outreach to our communities. Those in need of winter coats, clothing, shoes household and/or kitchen items, bedding, Christmas decorations, etc...You may stop by the Footville Church of Christ (117 Church Street, Footville) during the following days/times:

- Thursday, December 8th – 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Friday, December 9th – 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 10th – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

If you find yourself blessed and would like to donate items; they may be brought to Footville Church of Christ on December 4th (2 – 5 p.m.) or December 5th – 7th (1-3 p.m. or 6-8 p.m.). Please call John @ 608-466-4710 with any questions.

Confirmation Bake Sale – Saturday, December 10th at 8:00 a.m. – Noon - Farmer's and Merchant's Bank

OLC's confirmation youth will be hosting a bake sale to help raise money for Lutherdale next summer. You can support our youth by donating baked goods, purchasing treats or both! If you would like to donate baked goods to the youth, you can drop them off at church before December 9th or you may bring them to the bank on Saturday, December 10th. Thank you all for your generous support of our youth!

Foundation Board meeting – Sunday, December 11th

The Foundation Board will be meeting on Sunday, December 11th at 6:00 p.m. All members should plan on attending.

Christmas Caroling - Wednesday, December 14th - 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a night of caroling and hot chocolate! We'll meet at OLC at 6:00 p.m.; before traveling to various locations in Footville and Orfordville. We need a few drivers for this event. All are welcome.

Annual Budget Meeting – Sunday, December 18th

Mark your calendars...The Annual Budget Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 18; immediately following worship service.

Sunday School Christmas Pageant and Church Potluck – Sunday, December 18th

The Sunday School Christmas Pageant and Church Potluck will follow the Annual Budget Meeting. Please join us for this wonderful program. We will also be holding a Church potluck. Please bring a dish to share. All are welcome!

Volunteer Opportunities: Assist Pastor Andy with Nursing Home Services

Pastor Andy leads services at our area nursing homes. Please consider helping him prepare & distribute communion. Check the monthly newsletter calendar for dates/times. The nursing home residents love to have visitors!

Christmas Eve Services – Saturday, December 24th

We will be having two (2) services on Christmas Eve. The early service will take place at 4:00 p.m. The late service will be held at 10:00 p.m. Please join us in celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus.

Church Cookbook

You've probably started looking at your holiday recipes. Please consider sharing a few of them for our church cookbook. We would like to start gathering an assortment of recipes: Main Dish, Soups/Salads, Desserts, Breads, Side Dishes, etc. We are hoping to be able to have a section focused on Norwegian recipes; as well. The recipes we receive will determine the exact categories.

Recipes may be submitted to the church office in various ways: Copied/scanned, typed or *Neatly* Handwritten. You may drop them off in the purple envelope on the church office door or send via U.S. mail to the church. You may also send via email to office@orfordvillelutheran.org or to Sue Draves personal email at gsdraves@gmail.com.

Please make sure you put your name & phone number on the item(s) you submit; so that the church office may contact you with any questions. You may also indicate if the recipe is passed down from someone.

All proceeds will go toward OLC's 150th Celebration.

Save the Date for Upcoming Events:

OLC's 150th Celebration – September 29-30, 2018

In 2018, Orfordville Lutheran Church will celebrate the 150th Anniversary as a congregation. This will be a very exciting time for our congregation and community. The official date for celebrating the anniversary is September 29-30, 2018. **We are still looking for volunteers to be part of the planning committee for our celebration.** If you're interested in volunteering, please speak with Pastor Andy.

Acolytes for the month of December:

- 12/4/2016 Indie Pautsch & Ashley Vanderhei
- 12/11/2016 Max Gerber & Dynally Mould
- 12/18/2016 Ariana Humphres & Payton Stark
- 12/24/2016 (4 p.m. service) Ashley Vanderhei & Max Gerber
- 12/24/2016 (10 p.m. service) _____ & _____
- 12/25/2016 _____ & _____

Altar Guild Person(s) of the Month: Jackie Gerber & Sue Draves



*Pastor Andy at Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem
for Reformation Sunday
(They sang “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” in Arabic!)*



*Little Luther
Posing with Our Confirmation Class
(It’s a little blurry, but he’s holding a German
translations of the New Testament.)*



*Little Luther
Posing with Our Wednesday Morning Bible Study
(He’s the little guy standing on the open Bible.) ☺*

December Birthdays

7	Greyson Cramer	23	Eric LaVigne
8	Braden Speich	24	Jason Speich
13	Dalton Lange	25	Russ Lund
16	Megan Draves	27	Americus Pomplum
16	Steve Ryan	30	Bernice Amundson
17	Chrissy Stark	31	Phyllis Balch
19	Laurie Dickison	31	Lynette Lund
22	Chris Peterson		



Note:

Please help us keep our birthday lists up-to-date. If you see an error or if we missed someone, send us an email at office@orfordvillelutheran.org.

Thank yous and Thanksgivings:

- Thank you again and again to everyone who helped with the Norwegian Dinner!
- Thank you to Jason Draves for chaperoning for the Confirmation Extravaganza!
- Thank you to Ellen Pautsch for doing one of the readings at the Community Thanksgiving Worship Service!
- Thank you to Dave Hoff and Phil Vigdahl for putting up the Christmas Lights!
- Thank you to Mike Varilek for his work to prepare for the annual budgeting process!
- Thanks be to God for all the blessings of the past month!

Office Assistant Hours – Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 -10:30 a.m.

OLC's Office Assistant, Sue Draves, will be in the office Tuesday-Friday from 8:30-10:30 am. You can reach her by email at office@orfordvillelutheran.org and 608-879-2575. You can reach Pastor Andy on his cell phone 608-886-0546 or by email at pastor@orfordvillelutheran.org.

Pastoral Care and Prayer

If you're facing a surgery or a crisis or if you just need someone to talk to, please let Pastor Andy know by contacting him or by calling the church office (608-879-2575). If you would like to be supported in prayer by our prayer chain, please contact Nancy Dickison (608-879-2638) or Pastor Andy. Pastor Andy may be reached by email at pastor@orfordvillelutheran.org or on his cell phone at 608-886-0546.

OLC'S CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				9:00-11:00 am C.U.P. 4:00 & 7:00 pm <u>Beginning</u> New Fitness Class	8:00 pm AA/AL-Anon Meeting	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School Adult Education Conversation after Worship	9 am – 3 pm Quilt Class 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting	11:30 am Senior Luncheon 4:00 & 6:00 pm Fitness Class	9:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Confirmation Decorating Cookies	9:00-11:00 am C.U.P. 4:00 pm Fitness Class 6:00 pm Fitness Class Cancelled	8:00 pm AA/AL-Anon Meeting	8 am - Noon Confirmation Bake Sale Farmers & Merchants Bank
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Foundation Meeting		10:30 am Worship at St. Elizabeth 4:00 & 6:00 pm Fitness Class	9:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Christmas Caroling	9:00-11:00 am C.U.P. 4:00 & 6:00 pm Fitness Class	8:00 pm AA/AL-Anon Meeting	9:00-11:00 am C.U.P. Christmas Food Distribution
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Annual Budget Meeting (following Worship Service) 10:30 am Sunday School Christmas Pageant/Potluck		4:00 & 6:00 pm Fitness Class	9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship at Evansville Manor No Confirmation	No C.U.P. Today 9:30 am Worship at Woods Crossing 4:00 & 6:00 pm Fitness Class	8:00 pm AA/AL-Anon Meeting	Christmas Eve Services 4 pm & 10 pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Christmas Day 9:00 am Worship No Sunday School		4:00 & 6:00 pm Fitness Class	9:00 am Bible Study No Confirmation			