



ORFORDVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

Pastor Andy's Email: pastor@orfordvillelutheran.org

NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2015

FROM PASTOR ANDY TWITON:



“ [The Lord said to Abram], I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ” – Genesis 12:2

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Genesis 12:2 is one my theme verses for ministry and for my life. God blesses us so that we might be a blessing for others. In other words, God is generous to us so that we might be generous to our neighbors. This is part of God's mission to love and bless the whole world.

December 1st marks my first year with Orfordville

Lutheran Church. One of the things that has struck me in my first year has been the generosity of this congregation. There also seems to be an emphasis on service at the heart of OLC. You are generous with your time, talents, and treasure. I probably have not said thank you enough for your generosity.

I thought about this especially after the Norwegian Dinner at the end of October. It's an event that's truly a community effort and demonstrates how much can be accomplished when many hands work together. Afterwards, I sat down to try to list everyone who was involved so I could thank them, but the list grew too long, and I became worried I would leave someone out. Clearly, God has blessed this congregation with generous volunteers. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

I thought also of our mission quilters and everyone who contributed to our Lutheran World Relief kits. The picture on the upper left is courtesy of Lutheran World Relief. Zainab is a 7 year-old Syrian refugee currently living in Lebanon. She has wrapped herself in an LWR Mission Quilt and received a school kit. For me, this is a visible reminder of how God is using us to be a blessing to our neighbors in need. *We are blessed to be a blessing.*

This December we'll share God's blessing in many ways. To our families and friends, we'll give gifts. Through the CUP food shelf, we'll help share food with the hungry. Our Sunday School Families will collect coins for ELCA Good Gifts. And I'm sure there are many more examples. We are generous people because we belong to a generous God.

One of the other things our congregation always does during December is our annual budget meeting, which will be on December 13th this year. At the heart of any church budget is how we are sharing God's blessings with others. God has blessed Orfordville Lutheran. How is God calling us to continue being a blessing and a light to this community?

Thank you all for everything you do to build up our church family. God bless you during this Advent and Christmas season.

Your brother in Christ,



Pastor Andy Twiton

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Office Assistant Hours – Tuesday-Friday, 8:30-10:30 am

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.

Church Directory Updates

We would like to have accurate information in our Church Directory. Please review the information, on the clipboard, in the Narthex. Make any needed changes. You are also welcome to email the information to the office at office@orfordvillelutheran.org. We'd like to have this completed prior to January 1st.

C.U.P. Donations

The people of the Parkview School District are served from the C.U.P. food pantry housed at OLC. Area churches and organizations sponsor this worthy cause. It is run completely by volunteers. A list of needed items has been placed on the table in the Narthex. If you are interested in donating items to those in need; please feel free to take a copy of the list home with you.

Gifts of Love - December 10, 11 & 12

The local churches are sponsoring this outreach opportunity. If you are in need of items; you may stop by Footville Church of Christ on Dec 10 or Dec 11 (9 a.m.-8 p.m.) or December 12 (9 a.m.—2 p.m.) FREE winter clothing, household items, kitchen items, bedding, Christmas decorations, coats, shoes, etc. Please contact John @ 608-466-4710; with any questions.

If you find yourself blessed and would like to donate items; they may be brought to Footville Church of Christ at the following times: Dec 6 (2-5 p.m.), Dec 7 & Dec 9 (1-3 p.m. or 6-8 p.m.)

Annual Budget Meeting - Sunday, December 13th

The Annual Budget meeting will take place at 10:15 a.m., on Sunday, December 13th. (Immediately following worship service)

Foundation Board Meeting – Sunday, December 13th

The Foundation Board will meet immediately following the Annual Budget Meeting. All Foundation Board members, please plan on attending.

Volunteer Opportunities: Assist Pastor Andy with Nursing Home Services

Pastor Andy leads services at our area nursing homes. Please speak with Pastor Andy if you would be willing to help him prepare & distribute communion. The residents love to have visitors. Check the calendar for dates/times.

Pictures from the Norwegian Dinner



Bake sale held during the Norwegian Dinner to benefit the Sunday School program

Payton Stark was one of many youth that helped serve tables at our annual Norwegian Dinner.



Confirmation Extravaganza – November 4th

Pictured are: Pastor Andy, Max Gerber, Kailey Frame, Jason Draves, Arianna Humphres, Bailey Paulson & Dynally Mould.



December Birthdays

7	Greyson Cramer	22	Chris Peterson
7	Bobbe Stuvengen	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
21	Jerry Cramer		

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 you's and Thanksgivings

- Thank you again to everyone who helped with the Norwegian Dinner! It was truly amazing to see how so many people pitched in.
- Thank you to Jason Draves for chaperoning for Confirmation Extravaganza in Madison!
- Thanks be to God for the many blessings of this past month!

OLC'S CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		11:30 am Senior Luncheon	9:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Confirmation Parents Meeting	9-11:00 am C.U.P.	8:00 pm AA Meeting	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:00 am Worship 10:15 Sunday School	9:00-3:00 pm Quilt Class 6:30 p.m. Council Meeting	10:15 am Pastor Andy Service at St. Elizabeth's Footville	9:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Confirmation	9:00-11:00 am C.U.P	8:00 pm AA Meeting	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Budget Meeting Immediately following Worship <u>Foundation Board Meeting Following Budget Meeting</u> 10:15 Sunday School 1-3 pm Parsonage Open House			9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Pastor Andy Service at Evansville Manor 6:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm 3 rd Weds Youth Group	9:00-11:00 C.U.P	8:00 pm AA Meeting	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:00 am Worship 10:15 Sunday School Christmas Pageant 6:00 pm Christmas Caroling			9:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Confirmation	No C.U.P 9:30 am Pastor Andy Service at Wood's Crossing Brodhead 4 pm & 10 pm Christmas Eve Services	8:00 pm AA Meeting <i>Happy Birthday Jesus</i>	
27	28	29	30	31		
9:00 am Worship <u>No Sunday School Scheduled</u>		8:00 am Youth Group Lock-In (ends 12/30@8am)	<u>No Bible Study Scheduled</u> <u>No Confirmation</u>	No C.U.P		

Orfordville Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
November 2, 2015

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order by President Glen Johnson at 6:33 p.m.
2. Devotions were led by Pastor Andy Twiton.
3. Roll Call
Council Members Present: Traci Manthey, Glen Johnson, Pastor Andy Twiton, Jason Burtness, Tony Ends, Aaron Burns, and Mike Varilek.
Council Members Absent: Violet Renly, Ken Heller, and Racheal Grenawalt.
4. Approval of Agenda
Jason Burtness made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Mike Varilek. Motion approved.
5. Approval of the October Minutes
Council reviewed the minutes from the October 5, 2015 council meeting. Jason Burtness made a motion to approve the October 5, 2015 minutes. Motion seconded by Aaron Burns. Motion approved.
6. Treasures Report
Mike provided the treasures report. Mike said that the church is lagging on weekly income. We would like to let the congregation know the monthly budget and not just weekly. Aaron Burns made a motion to approve the treasure's report. Motion seconded by Jason. Motion approved.
7. Pastors Report
 - I will be at First Call Theological Education November 8th-11
 - We have four baptisms coming up in November!
 - For the next couple of weeks, I'll be covering a couple of things for Pastor Peder from Bethlehem in Brodhead – a funeral on November 4th and a service at Woods crossing on the 5th.
 - I'm preaching at the Community Thanksgiving service on Tuesday, November 24th at 7:00pm at St. Augustine's Catholic Church.
 - Looking back at October:
 - i. *Counseling and Visitation*: I made 8 pastoral visits during the month of October. Discussed baptisms with 3 different families.
 - ii. *Special and Community Events*: Pet blessing, led prayer at Senior Luncheon, Sunday School Hay Ride, Skelly's Corn Maze with Youth, Youth Group Pumpkin Carving and Bonfire out at Heller's.
 - iii. *Meetings*: Altar Guild meeting, Bishops Convocation; Synod Affinity Group; Brodhead Pastors Group; Met with members about Norwegian Dinner article; Met with Lyle re: Norwegian Dinner Slideshow; Met with Spiritual Director.
 - iv. No baptisms.
 - v. No Weddings.
 - vi. Funeral for Butch Brueggeman (community member)
 - vii. No Transfers in.
 - viii. No Transfers out.
8. Old Business
 - A. Ice Guards
Ice guards will be on soon.
 - B. Side walks
This project will have to wait until spring. Glen will talk with a few people about what to do this winter.

C. Forks for Sustainability Event

This event has been called off at this time due to Pastor Pedor's adoption of a baby and everyone is very busy. This event will happen at a later date.

D. Sunday School

Many people have offered to help and Pastor Andy will put together a schedule.

E. Other

9. New Business

A. Follow up from Norwegian Dinner

About 518 tickets sold. Fifty-eight carry-outs sold as well as 11 meals to Collinwood. Permanent numbers to come at later date.

B. Setting Budget Meeting Date

December 13, 2015 will be the date of the budget meeting.

C. Other

Aaron asked about all the new faces in church lately and Pastor knew some of them.

10. Next Meeting/Devotions/Treats

Next meeting will be Monday, December 7, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. Racheal will have devotions. Aaron will provide treats.

11. Adjournment

Jason Burtness made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Motion seconded by Aaron. Motion approved.

12. Closing

Glen Johnson led the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Racheal Grenawalt
Council Secretary