



ORFORDVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2015

FROM PASTOR ANDY TWITON:

“And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It has been my pleasure to begin as your pastor this past month and to celebrate my first Christmas with you. Thank you to everyone who has given Kristin and me such a warm welcome. Thanks especially to Delores Nelson for her help in the church office as I begin. Thank you as well to Glen Johnson and the council for their leadership. There are many others to thank for volunteering, for maintaining the church property and parsonage, for teaching Sunday School, for caring for our sick and homebound members, and more. To all of you who have given of your time and gifts, thank you for your ministry!

In my time with you so far, I have begun to learn your names and hear your stories. I have heard stories about how this church began and what it was like 20 years ago. I have heard stories about sad times when you’ve lost loved ones, and I have heard funny stories about past pastors and joyous events. I hope you will continue to tell me about yourselves and this place. As I listen, I am listening in particular for the ways God has been at work among you bringing healing and grace. I am convinced that each of our stories is caught up in the larger story of God’s love for the world in Christ. Your story and my story are all part of God’s story. I am eager to see where God is leading us in this next chapter.

During Christmas and into the season of Epiphany, we are trying to reorient our lives based on this mystery: “The Word became flesh and lived among us...” It’s the mystery that our God doesn’t remain in some far away heaven, but chose to become human and dwell among us in the flesh. I believe that God continues to dwell with us in this time and place – at Orfordville Lutheran and in this world God loves. I pray that together we will find ways to share God’s love and grace with all of our neighbors.

May the grace and truth of Christ be with you always.

Pastor Andy Twiton

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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. If you would like to be supported in prayer by our prayer chain, please contact Nancy Dickison or Pastor Andy.

No Quilting Class on January 5th -

Per Patty Burtness, there will be no Quilt class on January 5. Those in attendance, please note this on your calendar.

Wednesday Bible Study Resumes on January 7th at 9:00am -

On January 7, the next Bible study date is being held at Donna Kitelingers house. Please speak with Pastor Andy or Nancy Dickison if you're interested in joining our Wednesday Bible Study group.

Norwegian Dinner Income and Expense is located with the budget papers.

Annual Congregational Meeting – Sunday, February 15th at 10:00am

Our congregation's Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, February 15th. At this meeting, we will elect our church council representatives for the next year and give a report on our congregation. Please put this date on your calendar. **We also need each organizational report in the office by January 20th.** We need to get it ready to put in the annual meeting booklet. Thank you.

Pastor Andy's Installation – Sunday, February 22nd at 9:00am

While Pastor Andy has already begun at OLC, February 22nd will be his installation service. A representative of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin will be preside and lead us in celebrating this new call. Please join us and invite your friends!

Acolytes for January:

January 4 Dynally Mould and Charysma Mould
11 Kaily Frame and Jayce Reilly
18 Taylor Stark and Payton Stark
28 Arianna Humphries and Caylor Burns

Altar Guild for January: Bonnie Hoff

January Birthdays:

January 5 Gary Hallmark
12 Kourtney McManus
13 Kari Peterson
14 Lyle Amundson
15 Kate Grayless

15 Fumiyo Stuvengen
17 Kevin Ramquist
18 Dakota Peterson
20 Jennifer Cronk
20 Kurt Stuvengen

Thanks and Congratulations:

- Congratulations to the parents, sponsors, and family of Bailey Sue Burns who was baptized on December 28th! Congratulations, Breanna and Corey!
- Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the church for Christmas and welcome guests during these special services!
- Thank you to Mike Varilek for his work preparing this year's budget which we approved on December 21st!

A Couple of items from the church council

The council would like to hear suggestions on the placement of the steeple now that the roof is complete. You can mail your suggestion to the church office or contact one of the council members with your suggestion. Any and all suggestions are welcome. Thank you.

We have two more big projects to be done yet. One is our parking lot and the other is carpeting throughout. They both have served us well, but are in need of replacement. So we need to start saving for those just as was done for the roof. And then we have a "paid for" roof, parking lot, and carpeting.

HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO ALL