

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

DIRECTORY FOR 2018

PASTOR: Doug Opp (January-August)
Ben Unseth (August-December)

OFFICE MANAGER: Pam Steckler

CUSTODIANS: Brad & Kylie Stroehrer

OFFICE ASSISTANT: Krystal Albertsen

WORSHIP & MUSIC COORDINATOR: Jane Weber

DIRECTOR OF PRAISE BAND: Jo Beane

THE ROCK YOUTH LEADERS: Sara Slater, Nate Vorm, Tracie Christensen

CHOIR DIRECTORS:

Sr. Choir — Gary Keller; Accompanist - Kelly Polson

Kids Choir — Tara Hansen, Patrick Hamilton, Marla Sunberg

ORGANISTS/PIANISTS — Janice Hemmingsen, Barb Smith, Ryan Weber & Kelly Polson

CHURCH COUNCIL — Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month

President — Dan Madsen

Vice-President — Dan Smith

Secretary — Laurie Gilbert

Treasurer — Brandon Toft

Council members — Bruce Andersen, Mark Baier, Curtis Derry,
Brandon Hansen, Shelby Jensen, Dave LaFoy

2018 Completed executive committee & council member terms — Dan Smith, Laurie Gilbert,
Brandon Hansen, Shelby Jensen

COMMITTEES

Building & Property:

Arch Andersen

Curtis Derry (Council Rep.)

Dave LaFoy (Council Rep.)

Kurt Nelson

Jason Smith

Bob Sornson

Steve Stetzel

Education:

Bruce Andersen (Council Rep.)

Katie Bierbrodt

Tara Hansen

Rachael King

Megan Kjergaard

Kaylene Riebhoff

Pam Steckler

Heather Toft

Sara Vorm

Evangelism:

Mark Baier (Council Rep.)

Paula Hansen

Alice Hemmingsen

Elaine Jorgensen

Janell Lowe

Joan Mortensen

Elayne Sinow

Lorri Thygesen

Stewardship:

Dan Jorgensen

Dan Madsen

Lee Nielsen

Frank Olsen

Dan Smith (Council Rep.)

Brandon Toft (Council Rep.)

Worship:

Judy Baker

Genese Hamilton

Patrick Hamilton

Shelby Jensen (Council Rep.)

Linda Keller

Raydene Mathisen

Kelly Polson

Jane Weber (Worship & Music Coordinator)

Altar Guild Committee Chair:

Janice Hemmingsen

Koinonia:	Janice Hemmingsen Chip Hansen	Dan Smith (Council Rep.)
Caring & Sharing:	Judy Baker Danielle Derry Lela Gleason	Ardell Kelly Norma Nielsen
Mission Ministry Team:	Tim Andersen Jolene Burns (Council Rep.) Barb Christensen Diana Deist Curtis Derry	Danielle Derry Lee Nielsen Norma Nielsen Nancy Sand Dan Smith
Mutual Ministry:	Marlene Englin Troy Hagedorn Todd Nelsen	Dan Schmidt Cindy Vokt
Nominating Committee:	Outgoing Council Members: Kaylene Riebhoff, Lorri Thygesen Members at large: Jeff Albertsen, Amy Elmquist, Carol Olsen, Melissa Starmer	
Photography Team:	Alice Hemmingsen Kelly Polson	Lorri Thygesen
Safety Committee:	Megan Kjergaard Matt Starmer	Tyler Thygesen Brandon Toft (Council Rep.)
Scholarship:	Lisa Frederiksen Lyle Hansen, Jr.	Shannon Nelsen
Wellness Committee:	Barb Jacobsen Shellie Madsen	Lee Nielsen Jeanne Schwab
Women of Faith Officers:	Co-Chairs: Carol Albertsen & Mary Kay Lewis Treasurer: Sandy Parsons Mission Action: Janice Andersen & Donis Hansen	

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ANNUAL REPORT OF PASTOR BEN UNSETH

Our Saviour's is an extraordinary congregation. We are committed to our community, and we have earned our community's trust. We look to God's Word with every question we face. We minister intentionally to children, teens, adults, families, and to those who need a helping, caring hand. Thank you for entrusting me with the privilege of serving with you. I'm not sure what touches me most deeply—walking into a sports event and hearing students shouting “Hi” at me, children rushing at me with a big hug, the smiles of Sunday morning worship, the tears of funerals, or hearing your stories as we munch and sip together. In it all, God is on the move among us.

We thank God for blessing the ministry of Pastor Doug and Julie Opp in their eight years here at Our Saviour's. Pastor Doug drove out of Audubon on a Tuesday in August, and I drove into town that Thursday. The Church Council wanted seamless ministry, and all of you made my entry process incredibly smooth. This is the first of five steps for an intentional interim pastor. These steps sequence as follows:

Interim Pastor Tasks

1. Become part of the congregation.
 2. Reduce anxiety and manage grief.
 3. Manage the interim process.
 4. Put leaders to work.
- Prepare to exit.

How are these steps going? (1) You have welcomed me as part of our congregation. (2) We have maintained stability and momentum in our ministry together despite mourning the exit of a great pastor. (3-4) The interim process is advancing, and Our Saviour's had a hard-working team of servant-leaders before I walked in the door. (5) When the congregation discerns our next long-term pastor, I will do everything I can to give that person a strong start.

Before the Council selects a Call Committee in the late spring or early summer, I will be working with a Transition Team to help Our Saviour's with the following steps:

Congregational Tasks of Interim Ministry

1. Come to terms with history (e.g., unresolved issues, negative patterns).
2. Analyze the congregation as a system/Discern congregational identity (e.g., leadership structure, decision-making processes, financial processes, communications, demographics, mission, core values).
3. Enable adjustments in leadership.
4. Renew connectedness to others and to mission.

Commit to new directions in ministry, including to the new pastor.

These steps are less sequential: (1) Our time together is the ideal window to talk about and resolve any organizational challenges, even old wounds. (2) As we clarify God's call on Our Saviour's, we get a better idea of what kind of pastor we need, and we give pastoral candidates a clearer picture of who we are. (3) Because Our Saviour's has had several years under the same pastor, this is a good time to affirm leaders, and for leaders to recommit or adjust responsibilities. (4) To renew our connectedness to congregations beyond Audubon County, we will welcome pastors from related congregations to share with us throughout Lent. (5) Calling a long-term pastor brings a degree of change; we will be ready to continue our worship, service and fellowship together.

Wherever God sends me, I will miss you deeply!

Blessed to worship and serve with you,
Ben Unseth

OSLC PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As 2018 nears an end, and 2019 is fast approaching, it has been another energetic year at Our Saviour's. We have welcomed in numerous new members of all ages as well as many visitors throughout the year. Pastor Ben Unseth is filling the role of Intentional Interim and is doing a great job of continuing to spread God's word to our members and others in our area. After 60 plus years of wonderful service, it was time to retire our boiler and replace it with one that will hopefully last another 60 years. We had tremendous support for this project and I want to sincerely thank everyone for their help with it. We have been extremely blessed over the years at Our Saviour's in our ability and willingness to meet the needs of our church as they arise.

A friend of mine from out of state visited this summer and he commented on how fortunate we are to live in a small rural community that continues to grow when many small towns in rural America, including his, are struggling to simply maintain. I feel this is also true of our church family at Our Saviour's. Many church bodies across the United States, especially in rural areas, are struggling to maintain, but Our Saviour's is alive and well. This is thanks to an incredible staff, countless volunteers, and an amazing membership. Sometimes when things are going well and running smoothly, it is easy to become complacent. I want to encourage and challenge everyone to stay active in the church and keep a mission based mindset as you go through your daily lives. Don't be afraid to ask for help whether you are feeling overwhelmed with a task at hand, or are excited about a new mission opportunity and are wanting to get it off the ground. We are all brothers and sisters in Christ and speaking from personal experience, the support system at Our Saviour's is amazing!

2019 will be another exciting year for OSLC filled with God's word, mission, and fellowship. I want to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as the council President. Serving has helped me grow in my faith and understand more in depth the many pieces that come together to keep OSLC running smoothly and growing.

Dan Madsen

NURSING HOME VESPERS & COMMUNION SERVICES

Members of Our Saviour's have volunteered to experience scheduled monthly Thursday communion services with residents of the Friendship Home, as well as Sunday afternoon Vesper worship services at the Exira Care Center and the Friendship Home. OSLC Women of Faith play an important role in helping with the monthly communion services, and we thank and praise God for them, and for the many others who have used their time, talents, and gifts to the glory of God in these ministries. If you are interested in volunteering to worship with the residents or to be a piano accompanist, please contact the church office.

NURSERY MINISTRY

OSLC is blessed to have a Nursery Ministry available during Sunday morning worship for children through age four throughout the school year. The church chapel is the home to our Nursery, open from 8:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. from September-May. The Nursery is used with one to five children on a regular basis. If you would like to volunteer for this ministry, there is a sign up sheet on the door of the chapel door or contact the church office. This ministry is readily welcomed by our young families of OSLC and guests.

PRAYER MINISTRY

James 5:16 reminds us that "the prayers of a righteous person are powerful and effective".

And so with humble hearts we seek God's face on behalf of all those needing God's divine touch! We use many avenues of grace in communing with our Lord; Our Prayer Chain---Prayer times in the Chapel at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings and in the Alcove following Sunday worship --Bible Study groups---wherever 2 or 3 come together---family devotions---Silent Shepherding (praying for the names in our Upper Room devotional) and most important in our own personal prayer closet!! In our times with Jesus the Glory of God is made known!!

St. Paul in Colossians 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful!!

In Christ,
Barbara Christensen

2018 MISSION MINISTRY REPORT

OSLC is a mission-focused, Christ-centered faith community. We pray for the Lord's lead as we engage this post-Christian world with the Good News of God's saving grace for people of all age groups. Thank you for your investment in mission ministry in your homes, in our community, our state, our nation and globally! This year, as in previous years, we have been blessed with positive mission-spirited energy, sacrificially giving in mission with your precious time, talents and treasures!

Some mission ministers we share a partnership with include the following:

Caring and Sharing	New Opportunities
CROP Walk	Bethany Farm Camp
Faith Comes by Hearing (Military Bible Sticks)	Hesed International
The Church of the Damascus Road in Rockwell City	Hope Ministries of Des Moines
World Vision	Lutheran Services in Iowa
Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry	Lutheran World Relief
Blessman International-South Africa Mission	Compassion International
ALWM Awakening Lives to World Mission	Audubon County Jail
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Quilting Ministry
Ingham/Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp	Community Christmas Dinner
Seven LCMC mission churches	December Christmas Caroling
Silent Shepherding (praying for the names of our faith community printed in the Upper Room devotionals)	

God Bless you and your witness through word and deed! Pastor Ben Unseth

KOINONIA

The sharing of monetary gifts brings hope, joy and peace to those who are in troublesome times. We thank God that we have been able to extend help to many who are experiencing a crisis and are in need of funds to receive this help throughout the years. We also extend our thanks to everyone who contributes to this fund. The Koinonia Fund is supported by donations, and is not a budgeted item. If you would like to donate, please stop at the church office and visit with Pam.

Committee: Janice Hemmingsen, Dan Smith, Chip Hansen

2018 KOINONIA REPORT

January 1, 2018 Beginning Balance.....	\$1,981.29
2018 Requests for funds.....	\$800.00
2018 Interest/Donations.....	\$.17
December 31, 2018 Balance.....	\$1,181.46

OSLC ALTAR GUILD

It has been my pleasure to serve as Altar Guild chair for over 4 years now. Our Altar Guild roster is full. We have 3 active members on each monthly Altar Guild team and they serve for one month during the year. It's the responsibility of the Altar Guild to set up and take down the communion service on Sundays and also a couple of special services. They also take the vase liners to the flower shop each week and deliver altar flowers to individuals if asked to. The altar linens are also kept clean and in good repair. We also help with preparation for baptism services. It is great to be able to take turns doing that wonderful ministry.

In November, the Altar Guild received memorial donations in memory of Norma Hansen in which we purchased a new wine chalice that we started using in December.

I would like to thank everyone who serves on the Altar Guild. It is a very important part of worship preparation. If anyone would like to serve, please give me a call. I would love to have a waiting list.

Janice Hemmingsen, Altar Guild chair person

THE BUILDING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Building and Property Committee meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month.

1. Annual Clean-up Day was held on August 25th, 2018.
2. The new boiler was installed and is running great.
3. Ceiling fans were installed in the sanctuary.
4. Carpet was installed in the balcony.

We welcome members to join the Building and Property Committee in keeping the Lord's House in great condition, with your help contributing to make these improvements possible.

Bob Sornson, Arch Andersen, Kurt Nelson, Jason Smith, Steve Stetzel,
Dave LaFoy (Council rep.) and Curtis Derry (Council rep.)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee's highlights and challenges in 2018:

Winter, Spring and Fall 2018 Sunday School curriculum was a mixture of Sola and lessons from kidsundayschool.com. Pastor Doug taught five weeks of Holy Communion classes for the 5th grade beginning February 11th and their First Communion was March 18th. The 6th graders received three weeks of acolyte instruction in the spring and they began their acolyting duties in June.

We had our annual trip to the Friendship Home to sing for the residents on Palm Sunday, March 25th. The kids enjoyed singing for the residents and giving them the palm branches that were used in the Children's Processional during worship.

The Sunday School year ended with the annual Celebration of Sunday School on April 29th. All Sunday School participants received a certificate of attendance and those who missed three or less Sundays received a medal for Outstanding Attendance.

The Sunday school students completed and mailed numerous letters and crafts to our two Compassion Children, Grace and Ib. The kids have really enjoyed creating things for Grace and Ib and learning about their culture.

Vacation Bible School was held Monday, July 30th -Thursday, August 2nd for 3 year olds - 4th grade. Decorating for this event occurred on Sunday, July 29th. Bible school was held in the evening from 5-8 pm. with supper served. The theme was “Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus”. We had daily lessons, music, and activities that reminded us of God’s love for us. The week ended with a program and slideshow for families to see what we had been doing all week. We again invited anyone from the community to attend and had another very successful and well run VBS with about 160 kids, helpers, and adults.

Rally Sunday this year was September 9th. We presented Preschool students with their beginner bibles and third graders were presented their NIV bibles. We have combined some Sunday School classes because of low attendance in some grades, which always makes finding space for combined class sizes difficult. There continues to be a “No Gym” policy on Sunday mornings until after Sunday School which helps get the kids through snack and to their classrooms on time to begin opening.

Thank you to all the kids and parents for the Sunday School offering which helps show the students that their gifts they bring each Sunday are supporting a good cause, helping another child, and spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ! We continue to use our offering to sponsor two children from Tanzania through Compassion International ministry - a girl, Grace, and a boy, Ibrahimu. We have sent letters to these children and are supporting them financially every month. We also have given monetary birthday and Christmas gifts. They have written us back and drawn us pictures many times! It is our goal to keep the OSLC congregation informed and these children visible to them as well. This year we were able to adopt a family within our community from the Sunday School classes with the offering money. Council matched our offering up to \$500.

The annual Sunday School Christmas program was December 16th. We gave ornaments to the kids. We took a two week Christmas break and resumed classes on January 6th, 2019.

Family Nights have been a great change to our committee. We have offered back to school BBQ, Halloween pumpkin painting, and a community movie at The Rose Theater. This has been very successful. It has been wonderful for the kids to enjoy fellowship with all age groups of children, youth & adults. Contact the church office or a member of the Education Committee to find out how you can be involved in this ministry or any youth ministry at OSLC.

The Rock Youth Ministry (7th-12th) continues very strong. The kids have enjoyed numerous opportunities of fellowship and fun.

The Education Committee would like to offer our appreciation to our teachers, parent volunteers, and music leaders. The many activities of the Sunday School students would not be possible without the outstanding support of our volunteers. We look forward to working with the youth of Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church and to a rewarding 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Kjergaard - Rachael King
Pam Steckler—Katie Bierbrodt
Heather Toft - Sara Vorm
Tara Hansen-Kaylene Reibhoff
Bruce Andersen (Council Representative)



OSLC WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The OSLC Worship Committee is responsible in working with the pastor, church council, altar guild, ushers, taxi drivers, Praise Band, choirs, organists/pianists, projection system/sound/video operators, nursery workers, children message volunteers and assisting with all regular and special worship services at our church, Friendship Home, and Exira Care Center. Our thanks go to those who so graciously serve the Lord by participating in or by overseeing these many areas of worship.

2018 brought about a change in pastoral leadership at Our Saviour's. After eight years of faithfully serving God by leading our church family and through active involvement in our community, Pastor Doug and Julie Opp relocated to Sandy, UT to be closer to family. Also in August we were blessed to welcome Pastor Ben Unseth to OSLC. In his calling as OSLC intentional interim pastor, Pastor Ben will lead us through the process of calling a permanent pastor. We thank God for the leadership of both Pastor Doug and Pastor Ben, and we pray for the upcoming process of calling a permanent pastor.

Following is a summary of the many special services and events coordinated in 2018: Healing Services, Nursing Home services, Church Music Sunday, First Communion, Wednesday Lenten services, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, Confirmation, Senior Recognition, Praise in the Park, Rally Sunday, Quilting Ministry Blessing, Mission Sunday, Consecration, All Saints' Sunday, Staff Appreciation, New Member services, Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday Advent, Caroling, and Christmas Eve/Day services. Special music was lined up for summer Sundays. Worship Committee served a Belgian Waffle Brunch following worship on June 24th. We coordinated decorating the church for fall and Advent. Wednesday Advent services were held with Audubon church choirs from the Presbyterian, Methodist, Ebenezer, OSLC and St. Patrick's Catholic churches on Dec. 5th, guest speaker Pastor John Kline on Dec. 12th, and Behind the Cross Praise Band on Dec. 19th. The Worship Committee served Wed. Lent supper on Mar. 14th and Wed. Advent supper on Dec. 19th.

Music has always been an important tradition at Our Saviour's and we are grateful to the directors, accompanists, musicians and singers who share their musical gifts which greatly enhance our worship experience throughout the year. Behind the Cross Praise Band continues to lead worship once a month at our church, August through May. The Praise Band consists of nine youth under director Jo Beane's leadership, along with "sound man" Gary Keller, and is enjoyed by youth through adults both in our church and in the community. The Senior Choir (director Gary Keller and accompanist Kelly Polson) sings the first and third Sundays during worship and for several special services, Sept. through May. Kids Choir (2nd – 6th grades) is under the leadership of Kids Choir team Patrick Hamilton, Marla Sunberg and Tara Hansen sings the second Sunday worship service October through April. Many individuals provide special music through the summer and we are grateful for their willingness to share their musical gifts.

A nursery during Sunday worship for infants through four year olds has been a valuable service to many families in our congregation. Volunteers for the nursery are recruited by the Worship Committee and our thanks go to those who volunteer their time to this service for our church families.

The sanctuary Projection System (installed June 2014) continues to be a valuable teaching tool and enhancement to our worship experience. Both staff and volunteers are involved in the preparation and operation of the Projection System.

Our Saviour's is blessed with many faithful volunteers who commit themselves to carrying out the work of the Lord!

OSLC Worship Committee

Raydene Mathisen

Kelly Polson

Shelby Jensen (Council Rep.)

Linda Keller

Judy Baker

Jane Weber (Music/Worship Coordinator)

Genese Hamilton

Patrick Hamilton

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Ephesians 4:11-12 “It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists and some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up”.

Some of our Evangelism Opportunities during the church year are:

- Confirmation reception.
- Graduation reception.
- New member receptions. Give a “welcome bag” to the new members and their families and lapel flowers.
- A photography team takes photos of church events: Lorri Thygesen, Alice Hemmingsen and Kelly Polson.
- Keep Cradle Roll updated and the Cradle Roll board that hangs in the entry way. Joyce Taggart manages this project.
- Baptism banners are created for baptismal celebrations by Sharolyn Fett & Alice Hemmingsen.
- Honor Mothers on Mother’s Day with devotional books. This includes Moms that are in the Friendship Home or shut-ins.
- Honor Fathers on Father’s Day with candy bars. Also Dads in the Friendship Home and shut-ins.
- Furnish extra treats for the various holidays.
- Hand out sacks of goodies to all children on Christmas Eve.
- Line up greeters for the extra services during the church year.
- A military board honoring our military men and women serving our country. Pictures are located on the hallway bulletin board.
- Newspaper ads are placed in the local paper announcing Holy Week, Easter, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.
- The lawn banner now announces various church functions, Vacation Bible School, Rally Sunday or “Jesus Lives”! This is a great evangelism tool.
- “Cookies to our service men and women” stationed overseas from Iowa project.

Members:

Alice Hemmingsen, Joan Mortensen, Elayne Sinow, Janell Lowe, Lorri Thygesen, Paula Hansen, Elaine Jorgensen and Mark Baier (Council Rep.)

OSLC WELLNESS MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The Wellness Committee strives to provide our church family with relevant monthly wellness tips in the Shepherd’s Staff. Some of these tips deal with physical health. Other tips deal with mental or spiritual health. Merriam-Webster defines health as the condition of being sound in body, mind, or spirit. Wellness is defined as a condition in which someone or something is thriving or the quality or state of being healthy in body and mind, especially as the result of deliberate effort. In 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 New International Version we read, “Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies.”

Barb Jacobson, Lee Nielsen, and Jeanne Schwab provide the wellness tips for the monthly newsletter. On the third Sunday of every month blood pressures have been taken to help members monitor their heart health.

Attending worship and the support of Our Saviour’s church family is one way all members can help maintain their health.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Schwab

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Board would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members at OSLC for their support this past year. Through your gifts of time, talents and treasures we had a very successful year again doing what Jesus called us to do in the Great Commission.

Some of the responsibilities of the Stewardship Board are as follows:

- The first Sunday of each month we provide the stewardship newsletter.
- We helped fund the Wellness Ministry Team for 2018.
- In late August we hosted the Praise in the Park worship service and potluck lunch.
- Planned the annual Consecration Sunday in early November.
- Worked with the office manager to place commitment cards in the newsletter mailing. With the help of the commitment cards we plan the next year's budget before sending our recommendation to the church council.
- Are hosts to the first of three Advent suppers in December.
- We help host new member classes as needed.
- Prepare the annual congregational financial report.
- Supported special Easter mailing.

Members of the board are:

Frank Olsen, Dan Madsen, LeRoy Nielsen, Dan Jorgensen, Dan Smith & Brandon Toft.

We want to thank Nancy Olson for her many years of service on the board as she has retired from the board this year.

2018 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

President - Dan Madsen

Vice President - Kyle Kjergaard

Secretary - Kathy Graeve

Treasurer - Brandon Toft

Council Members

Bruce Andersen - serving first year of two year term

Curtis Derry - serving first year of two year term

Kandi Tague - serving first year of two year term

Joe Elmquist - serving first year of two year term

Dave LaFoy - serving second year of two year term

Mark Baier - serving second year of two year term

Nominating Committee Members for 2019 are:

Outgoing council members - Shelby Jensen, Brandon Hansen

Members at large - Tammy Sauers, Barb Jacobsen, Holly Kjergaard, Norma Nielsen

LCMC International Gathering, Omaha, NE. September 29th - October 2nd - Gary & Marlene Englin

Heartland District Conference - Lee & Norma Nielsen

Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp Annual Meeting April - LaDona Jergenson

Nominating Committee Members for 2018 were:

Outgoing Council Members - Kaylene Riebhoff & Lorri Thygesen

Members at large - Jeff Albertsen, Amy Elmquist, Carol Olsen & Melissa Starmer

“THE ROCK” YOUTH GROUP

The Rock has been busy making many fun memories during the year. We are blessed with wonderful youth that share their time with us, we are grateful for them!

January the Rock planned to attend Winter Jam but we did not have the interest in Winter Jam due to school schedule conflicts. February was a busy month. The Rock collaborated with the Methodist church youth group to practice performing “Flawless”, after we hosted games and a pizza/movie night. We had a fantastic turnout of 22 youth! The youth then performed for the OSLC congregation February 25th. We had many people comment on how moved they were by the performance. In March we braved the cold and took 13 youth to Ignite Youth Conference March 9th-10th at Grace Church in Des Moines. We learned during our break-out sessions, praised God during our main sessions and sang with about 500 fellow youth. The Rock youth were great representatives of our church! March 23rd the Rock practiced “This Blood” with pizza afterwards (yes a recurring theme) and then March 25th performed “This Blood” for the OSLC congregation. They did a beautiful job! April 1st The Rock prepared and served Easter Breakfast to the OSLC congregation. We are always so blessed to have a wonderful turn out and are honored to serve our congregation that supports us. Thank you! The Rock had a movie/popcorn night in May. We tried to plan a summer event in June/July but our youth had too many game/summer conflicts. We had a ‘Back to School’ grill out at Legion Park with outdoor yard games with a lesson on “Kindness”. We had a nice time with 12 youth. In September The Rock thought it would be fitting to take our youth rock climbing at Climb Iowa. We took 10 youth climbing and had a great afternoon of supporting each other and cheering each other on! October 3rd youth from OSLC met at the church to walk to The Rose Theatre to join area youth to watch “God Bless the Broken Road”. We had about 25 adults and youth go! Crop Walk was October 14th and we had SNOW! The youth brought their donation packets but we did not have them walk. OSLC raised \$929 to donate to Crop Walk, thank you! November 18th The Rock made “Thankful Blessing” snack mixes and shared with people the youth felt blessed to have in their lives. We then went bowling at the rec center and had a great afternoon of bowling and AGAIN pizza. We had 18 youth enjoy the afternoon with us! In November Dan Bierbrodt, Katie Bierbrodt and Nate Vorm started Sunday night bible study for high school youth. They have shared that it is going very well and have had between 4-12 high schoolers attend! The Rock joined the congregation on December 9th for Christmas caroling and we have Winter Jam on the schedule for January 24th, 2019! We are looking forward to another great year, and feel blessed to spend time with our youth!



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN WOMEN OF FAITH

Officers for 2018 were:

Co-Chairs & Secretary Officers were: Carol Albertsen and Mary Kay Lewis

Treasurer: Sandy Parsons

Mission Action: Donis Hansen and Janice Andersen

Committees:

Caring and Sharing: Norma Nielsen, Judy Baker, and Lela Gleason

Nominating Committee: Board Members

On January 21st, 2018, Pastor Doug called a meeting of all the church women to meet after church. Pastor Doug made several important points about what our church should do. It was decided to change our name to Women of Faith instead of Women of the Word. It was suggested that we make cards of information for each of the women of the church including their name, address, phone numbers (land and cell), and email. It was also suggested that we put up sign-up sheets for:

1. Host for serving coffee, etc. after church each Sunday
2. Greeters before church
3. Meals on Wheels (Shellie Madsen and Judy Baker volunteered to do this)
4. World Day of Prayer (Marlene Englin volunteered to do this)
5. Blood Mobile

On January 22nd Carol and Mary Kay met after quilting and set up a card format for gathering information of the church women and then on January 29th they met with Pastor Doug on the progress of the information cards.

On March 2nd, 2018, the World Day of Prayer was held at the Methodist Church. The Methodist ladies served a brunch and OSLC provided the program. Marlene Englin presented the program. 42 ladies were present.

Our Women of Faith have been active in providing assistance with many events here at Our Saviour's. These include providing and serving coffee and cookies/bars every Sunday morning following worship service, serving funerals, greeting church members and visitors each Sunday morning, delivering Meals on Wheels, Friendship Home birthday party, helping with communion at the Friendship Home and cleaning the church kitchen. Our Mission Action committee kept busy with sewing quilts, providing layettes, school kits and health kits for Lutheran World Relief. Thank you to all the Women of OSLC for your generous support this past year.

On July 24th, 2018, Carol and Mary Kay met with Jolene Burns and Janell Lowe. Jolene & Janell will be the new Co-Chairs beginning January 1st, 2019.

On November 4th, 2018 (All Saints Sunday) the Women of Faith served coffee and "goodies" after church for their annual fundraiser of the year. A total of \$1286.00 was raised.

The officers met November 27th to discuss the year end benevolences.

2018 Distributions of annual funds of annual benevolences went to:

Okoboji Bible Camp Fund: \$200.00	Lutheran World Relief: \$200.00
Okoboji Camping ministries: \$200.00	Good Neighbor Center: \$200.00
Caring and Sharing: \$200.00	Friendship Home: \$200.00
Exira Care Center: \$200.00	Cass Inc.: \$200.00
Hope Ministries: \$200.00	Community Opportunities: \$200.00
New Hope: \$200.00	Family Crisis Center: \$200.00
Storybook Project: \$200.00	Oaks Indian Mission: \$200.00
OSLC Scholarship Fund: \$500.00	OSLC Bible Camp: \$200.00
OSLC Vacation Bible School: \$200.00	Audubon Co. Foster Care Closet: \$300.00
Sunday School chairs: \$200.00	

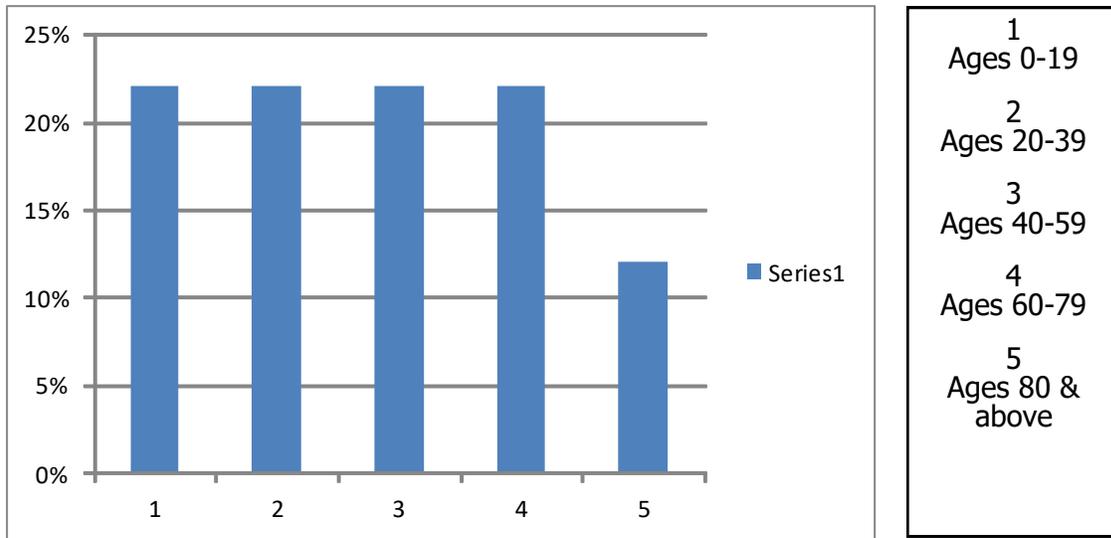
Christmas gifts to OSLC employees:

Pastor Ben: \$75.00, Pam Steckler: \$50.00, Brad and Kylie Stroehrer: \$50.00, Jane Weber: \$50.00

Respectfully submitted,

Women of Faith

STATISTICAL REPORT
A DECEMBER, 2018 DEMOGRAPHIC OF OSLC
ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP TOTALING 632 BAPTIZED MEMBERS



	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Average Weekly Worship Attendance	239	249	241	231	223	216	220	213
Baptisms	7	11	10	11	10	12	8	13
Marriages	4	3	7	4	3	3	1	7
Confirmations	9	12	6	7	5	7	9	8
Funerals	21	18	13	12	15	25	20	23
New Members	7	34	20	3	29	3	16	27
Baptized Active Membership	572	588	590	603	623	632	631	632

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting
January 28, 2018**

President Dan Madsen Called the meeting to order at 11:25 a.m. There were 74 members present.

Pastor Doug Opp led the opening with a reading from Jeramiah and a prayer.

President Dan Madsen added the minutes for the July 16th special meeting to the agenda.
Lee Nielsen Moved and Steve Mathisen seconded to approve the revised agenda. Motion carried.

In addition to his written report, Pastor Opp thanked his staff, as well as all the council members for their support and service. He shared that we had nice increase of new members this past year, as well as an increase in church attendance. He also shared some of the demographics of the membership at OSLC. In the past 7 ½ years we've added 139 new members. We all need to be of service and find ways to help others serve. Pastor Opp spoke briefly on the new system of sign up, which will be on the east wall of the entry way. This will be the place to sign up to serve as greeters, coffee hour, snacks & etc. Pastor also spoke briefly on our membership with both the Heartland District and the Iowa District.

Motion was made by Jean Jensen and seconded by Kelly Polson to approve the January 22, 2017, Annual Meeting Minutes, the 2017 Committee Annual Report, and the July 16, 2017, Special Meeting Minutes.
Motion carried.

Tim Andersen presented the report of the Financial Review Committee. Upon not finding any discrepancies, Tim moved and Marlene Englin seconded to accept the report. Motion carried.

Steve Mathisen gave the Nominating Committees Report. President Dan Madsen, Vice President Dan Smith, Secretary Laurie Gilbert and Treasurer Brandon Toft. Curtis Derry for a one year term to fill the last year of Dan Smith's term. Bruce Andersen for a one year term to fill the last year of Brandon Toft's term. Dave LaFoy, Brandon Hansen and Mark Baier for two year terms. Nominating committee members for 2018 are: Outgoing council members- Lorri Thygesen and Kaylene Riebhoff, members at large are Jeff Albertsen, Amy Elmquist, Carol Olsen and Melissa Starmer. LCMC International Gathering delegates are Steve and Raydene Mathisen, Heartland District delegates are LaDona Jergenson and Janice Hemmingsen, and the Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp annual meeting delegate is LaDona Jergenson.

President Dan Madsen asked for any nominations from the floor. Lee Nielsen moved for the nominations to cease and to pass a unanimous ballot. Nate Vorm seconded. Motion carried.

President Dan Madsen reported under old business that Carroll Control Systems got the bid on the boiler replacement project. Upon their recommendation, we went with a single boiler system at a cost of up to \$105,000. As of this time, we have raised approximately \$76,000 of the money needed.

President Dan Madsen reported on the Sabbatical Policy Proposal. After some questions and discussion, Raydene Mathisen moved and Susan Stetzel seconded, that we accept the Sabbatical policy as presented. The vote was passed by ballot with 56 yes and 5 no.

Matt Heller gave a brief report on the 2017 Budget and the recommendation of the 2018 Budget. He reported that the 2018 Budget included a 2% wage increase for all staff. Motion by Dick Baker and seconded by Leroy Nielsen to accept the 2018 Budget as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Kelly Polson, seconded by Judy Baker to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Respectfully submitted,
Dan Smith

**OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
JANUARY 27, 2019**

1. Devotions and Opening Prayer – Pastor Ben Unseth
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Pastor Ben's Annual Report
4. Approval of January 28, 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes and 2018 Committee Annual Reports
5. Report of Financial Review Committee and Approval of their Report
6. Elections:
 - A. Report of Nominating Committee
 1. Congregation Officers (1 year terms: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer)
 2. Council Members at Large (Terms as indicated on Ballot)
 3. 2019 Nominating Committee (Six voting members of the congregation, two of which are to be outgoing Church Council Members)
 - B. Okoboji Bible Camp Annual Meeting, Okoboji, IA (1 or 2 delegates)
 - C. LCMC Heartland District Meeting (2 delegates)
 - D. LCMC Annual Convention, October 6-9, 2019, Omaha, NE (2 delegates)
7. Old Business
 - A.
 - B.
8. New Business
 - A.
 - B.
9. Recommendation of 2019 Budget by Stewardship Committee
10. Report of Election Tellers
11. Announcements
 - A. President's comments
 - B. Installation of all 2019 Council Members and Officers will take place on **Sunday, February 2, 2019**
12. The Lord's Prayer and Adjournment

