

OSL & MELO FAITH CONNECTION

JANUARY
2021



Thank You to all who serve on the various committees within the churches and participate in the services. If you're interested in becoming more involved, contact Pastor Janet, a council member or the office for info. You'd be more than welcome to join in!



The Warren area blood drive will be held January 18, 2021 at the Warren American Legion from 1:30-6:00 pm. This event is sponsored by GFWC Mawami Club in cooperation with Vitalant. If you would like to be a donor please call or text Bobbi Mischel at 218-201-0124. All donations will be checked for Covid 19 antibodies to identify donors who might be able to donate convalescent plasma for those currently struggling with Covid 19. If you have recovered from Covid 19, please consider this life saving donation. Due to Covid restrictions we are not taking walk in donors at this time. We are always seeking new donors. If you have any questions or to schedule an appointment, please contact Bobbi.



Melo will hold their annual meeting following worship on
Sunday, January 24
Our Savior's will hold their annual meeting following worship on
Sunday, January 24
Meeting Virtually

Please turn in financial and committee reports to the church office by **January 15th** or as soon as possible thereafter.

Thank you!

MEMBERS OF MELO & OUR SAVIOR'S:

Please notify the office if any phone numbers, addresses, or email addresses, etc. have changed in the past several months and the office has not already been informed of these changes, so we can keep our records current. Thank You!
(If any information is requested to be kept confidential, we will certainly make note and honor those requests.)



Pastor

Rev. Janet Warnes
pastorjanetw@gmail.com
Office: 745-4478
Cell: 507-458-1960

Part-Time Youth Director Vacant

Secretary

Mallory Craik
Mon 1-3 Tues 2-5
Fri 9-1
osl@oursaviors-melo.org
Office: 745-4478

OSL Custodian

Jake Reinier
701-740-5299

Sunday Worship Times

9:00 am Melo Worship
10:45 am OSL Worship

A video of OSL Sunday Worship can be seen on Monday at 3:30 pm on cable channel 13 and on YouTube. The service is now being streamed live also. A link can be found on the OSL/Melo church website, and archived services can be viewed as well: www.oursaviors-melo.org.



Follow OSL Facebook Page for service info, updates and weekly devotionals.

www.facebook.com/OSLWarrenMN

HAPPY ★ NEW YEAR

DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
January 27th

FROM THE PASTOR

"Shout for Joy to the Lord, all the Earth" Psalm 100:1

People observe New Year's Day in various ways. The Chinese New Year includes firecrackers and other noise makers to drive away evil spirits.

This hardly what the psalmist had in mind when he urged his readers to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord". Psalm 65 speaks of the noise made for the New Year. This includes sounds of thankfulness and praise. We rejoice in what God has done over the past year. Yes, the year has presented many challenges. 2020 will be one many of us will never forget. But with a new vaccine on the horizon we hope 2021 will bring a more normal year.

In our parish there have been many answers to prayer. Many have been touched by God's healing. We have seen God's faithfulness in the planting and the harvest. Families have experienced God's grace and love. New ministries have developed. We have had zoom meetings, Telecare outreach, the extension of the Table and more.

Each New Year is a new beginning with the blessing of God's spiritual and natural gifts. What God has given us in the past He will give in the future.

Praise God for His faithfulness.

Your friend and pastor

Pastor Janet Warnes

MINISTRY UPDATES

In the New Year the Councils have looked at a number of ministry opportunities:

*Together with the Worship and Evangelism Committee at OS we continue with Youth Leadership Sundays - normally the second Sunday of the month. We also have a less formal service the second Sunday of the month. Each service has a special time for kids. This will continue even as we have virtual services.

*The Sunday School and Youth choirs are on hold for Melo and OSL.

*The youth will continue with monthly events.

*We are hoping to receive new members again in January or February.

*Bible studies are on hold.

*The property committee will be completing a number of projects - See the council minutes.

*Annual Meetings will be held for both Melo and Our Savior's on January 24 Both are following the service.

In-person for Melo and a zoom meeting for OSL.

*Outreach to the homebound continues in earnest.

* Zoom Confirmation classes are being held.

This is just a snapshot of upcoming events.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in an additional Bible Study during the winter months, please see Pastor Janet.



ANNUAL MEETING DATES

Melo Lutheran Church

January 24, 2021- Following worship

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

January 24, 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting -

Following worship

CONFIRMATION UPDATE

*Classes for the 7th and 8th Grade continue on Zoom Wednesday, January 13 at 4:00 pm. Zoom time includes: Presentation, Skits, Drama, Small Groups, Music.

*The 9th grade meets on Sunday, January 17 at 11:45 am.

*Remember the kids as they learn more about

God's X-Treme Gift of Grace

YOUTH AND FAMILY

Youth Board will be meeting in January 4 at 6:30 pm

OUTREACH

New members will be received in January

If you would like to join one of the churches or know of someone who would please let Pastor Janet know.





Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council Minutes

December 15, 2020

The December 15, 2020 OSL Council meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Council President Travis Hanel. Pastor Janet opened with devotions and prayer.

Attending: Tony Johnson, Travis Hanel, Kaitlin Barbosa, Adam Sparby, Jim Duckstad, and Pastor Janet.

The meeting began with discussion on location of projection screen and location of computer to control projection. More information is needed for cost on running cables to the back of the church.

Approval of Agenda and Previous Meeting Minutes: Adam motioned to approve the agenda and previous meeting minutes. Kaitlin seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Pr. Janet reported that expenses were normal for November with faithful offerings. General fund is doing well. Jim motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Tony seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Janet is busy with worship prep and calling homebound and other visitation completed by cards, texts or email. Extension of the table was sent to over 40 people. She is completing a few home visits as requested. The pandemic is causing stress for many families and Pr. Janet is supporting them. There were no funerals or baptisms in November. No upcoming winter weddings.

Youth have completed blessings bags to be given to others as a blessing. Sharing tree is complete and gifts are being purchased. Sunday School participants came individually to record pieces of the Christmas program and will be shown on Sunday for Christmas program. Confirmation is done by Zoom and in-person depending on grade. The Tech Committee met and is working on projection and virtual services.

Virtual Christmas Eve candlelight worship is planned and being recorded. January 3rd vacation was requested for Joan and will be covered by Linda. Pr. Janet has requested this Sunday as well.

Adam motioned to approve the Pastor's Report. Tony seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: Sharing tree is completed and gifts being purchased.

Worship & Evangelism: Worship calendar is set for hymns.

There will be a Virtual Christmas Eve service on channel 13 at 4:30 p.m., 10 p.m. and replayed again on Christmas Day at 10:45 a.m. A live nativity will be in front of the church at 4:15 p.m. on Christmas Eve with passing out of blessing boxes.

Education and Youth: Virtual Sunday school program will be on Sunday, December 20 as part of the carol service. Jim motioned to keep services virtual through the end of January, with drop-ins welcome. Tony seconded. Motion carried.

Property & Management: Tech Committee met. Conversation about location of AV control. Light is getting checked in the basement, three-way switch is getting checked in library, and considering changing all lights in basement and secretary office. Tree removal at parsonage this winter.

Jim motioned to approve the committee reports. Adam seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business

Council Members: Kaitlin's term is up in 2021 and will be done. Tony will serve another term as his term is also up in 2021. At least one more member will need to be recruited.

New Business

Mallory will continue as secretary and will also be taking over financial secretary and power points. With additional responsibilities, Travis motioned to move her position to \$18 an hour at 30 hours a week starting January 2. Jim seconded. Motion carried.

Christmas bonuses were given up to a total of \$800.

The next meeting will be on January 12 at 7:00 p.m. Kaitlin motions to adjourn meeting. Adam seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaitlin Barbosa



Virtual Candle Light Christmas Eve

This year our Candle Light Service and Christmas Eve Service were combined and done virtually. We had lovely music, readings and a fun slideshow featuring many of our members. In case you miss it, the service can be viewed on the church website or Facebook page!

www.facebook.com/OSLWarrenMN



Thank You to all of the musicians that shared their talents: Mara Hanel, Brenna & Katie Benson, Joan Peterson, Spencer & Austin Wittman, Macey Boe, Jakob Wurtzel, Savannah Bishop, Darby Boe, Wayne Torgerson, Travis & Matthew Hanel.

Thank you to our readers for sharing the Christmas Gospel: Josh Benson, Bev Clausen, Bev Torgerson and Joan Peterson.

Thank you to Pastor Janet and Joan Peterson for selecting readings, program development, and encouraging participation!

Thank you to Mara Hanel for recording several of the features, assembling the slide show and producing the service.

Thank you to Josh Benson for recording many of the features and posting the video for all to enjoy!



A new sign that can be displayed year after year!



Thank you to everyone who helped decorate our Churches this Christmas Season.

They look beautiful!



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT ~ November 2019



General Account

Receipts

General Offering	\$ 33,210.00
Endowment Fund	\$ 40.00
Project 2000/Building Fund	\$ -236.68
Missions	\$ 20.00
The Lutheran	\$ 10.0
Total Income	\$ 33,583.73



OSL Members

If you are using offering envelopes, please pick them up from the table in the narthex if you haven't yet done so. *(Please let the church office know if you do not wish to use envelopes.)* Thank you!

Expenses

Salaries/Pulpit Supp/FICA	\$ 5996.98
Bldgs/Phone/Internet	\$ 546.63
Custodial Supplies	\$ 76.69
Office Repair/Maint.	\$ 151.19
Confirmation	\$ 190.67
Organist	\$ 319.44
Worship Supplies	\$ 79.00
Office Supplies/Postage	\$ 455.56
ODC Custodian	\$ 280.00

Total Expenses \$ 8,096.16

Net Ordinary Income \$ 25,487.57

Net Income \$ 25,487.57

Thrivent Members

Please remember to designate your Thrivent Choice dollars for 2020 which can be used for needs of the churches: go online at Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 1-800-847-4835. Members have until March 31, 2021, to designate 2020 dollars. *Thank you!*

November Offering	Simply Giving	11/1/2020	11/08/2019	11/15/2020	11/22/2020	11/29/2020	Nov 2020 Total
General	\$ 2,935.00	\$ 1,135.00	\$ 575.00	\$ 1,255.00	\$ 720.00	\$ 950.00	7,600.00
Utilities					\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00
Postage		\$ 390.00					\$ 390.00
Thanksgiving		\$ 20.00			\$ 25,000		\$ 12,020.00
Youth Group							
Proj. 2000/Bldg Fund	\$ 40.00						\$ 40.00
Endowment	\$ 40.00						\$ 40.00
Mission	\$ 20.00						\$ 20.00
Lutheran							\$ 10.00
Total	\$ 3,035.00	\$ 1,555.00	\$ 575.00	\$ 1,255.00	\$ 25,950.00	\$ 950.00	33,320.00
Total to General Fund							\$ 33,210.00



Sharing
Tree
And
Blessing
Bags!





Youth Newsletter

January Acolytes

Jan 3 – Gracie & Lexi Kittleson

Jan 10 – Macey Novak

Jan 17 – Max Carlson & Brodie Wurtzel

Jan 24 - Caden Benson

Jan 31- Ashley Bishop

Confirmation

Jan 13: 7th & 8th Grade/ 4:00 pm Zoom

Jan 17: 9th Grade/ 11:45 Church Basement

Jan 20: 7th & 8th Grade/ 4:00 pm Zoom

Jan 27: 7th & 8th Grade/ 4:00 pm Zoom

Youth Leadership

Youth Leadership Sunday will be on January 10.

Sunday School

Thank you to all the Sunday School Children who helped decorate our Church with nativity scenes!

They will be display through January and can then be picked up in the Narthex for you to keep!



Rhett & Sawyer Reinier
Showing their art for the
window!



SUNDAYS IN JANUARY YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS:

Sunday, January 3 Worship Service with Brian Wurtzel, Pastor on Vacation

9:00 am In-person Worship Service at Melo

10:45 am Virtual Worship Service at OSL

Sunday, January 10 The Baptism of Our Lord Good Gifts / Youth Leadership Sunday

9:00 am In-Person Worship Service at Melo with Holy Communion

10:45 am Virtual Worship at OSL with Holy Communion

Sunday, January 17 Holy Communion

9:00 am In-Person Worship Service at Melo with Holy Communion

10:45 am Virtual OSL Worship with Holy Communion

11:45 am 9th Grade Confirmation in the basement

Sunday, January 24

Annual Meetings at Melo & OSL

9:00 am In-person Worship Service at Melo

10:00 am Melo Annual

10:45 am Virtual Worship at OSL

11:45 am Virtual Annual Meeting at OSL



Sunday, January 31 –

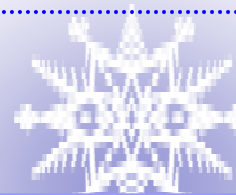
9:00 am In-Person Worship Service at Melo

10:45 am Virtual Worship at OSL

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

For those that use offering envelopes at OSL, they are available for pick-up in the narthex. You may also sign up for Simply Giving at any time; contact the office for information.

Thank you for your offerings throughout the year; 2020 contribution statements will be sent out in January.



Our Actors ~ Mary: Kaley Boe ~ Joseph: Gabe Marquis ~ Angel: Macey Boe ~
Star: Kenley Marquis ~ Shepherds: Johnny & Wilson Craik ~ Calf: Buster the
Dog ~ Big Thanks to Jessica Olson for providing her adorable goats!



A special thanks to Bob Conely for building the
beautiful nativity & to Todd Dahlman
for helping deliver and set up!

Live Nativity On Christmas Eve At OSL



Pastor Janet & Joan passed out
“Christmas in a Bag” to over 40 cars that
came to see the nativity! It was such a
blessing to see everyone’s smiling faces!

VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

A Huge Thank you to Katie & Josh Benson, KatieJo Marquis and Heather Goroski for all their hard work on the virtual Sunday school program! It turned out great and can be viewed on the OSL Facebook page or by Searching “Our Saviors Lutheran Warren MN” on YouTube.



Heather & Katie passing out treat bags to the kids!



Kaitlin & Solvi Barbosa after
recording Solvi’s part!



Katie & Josh
all set up for video taping the Kids!

JANUARY 2020

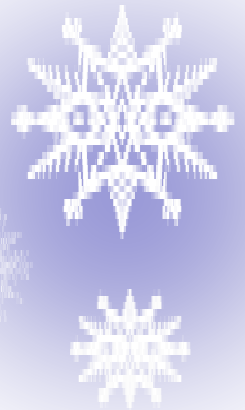
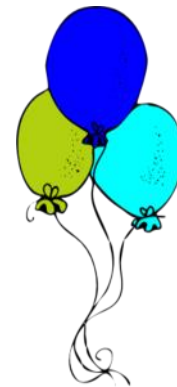


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>Happy New Year Happy New Year Happy New Year</div>					1 NEW YEAR'S DAY Office closed	2
3 9:00 AM Melo Worship In person 10:45 AM Virtual Worship at OSL	4 1:00 PM Staff Mtg 5:30 PM Ed-Committee 6:30 PM Youth Board	5	6	7	8	9
10 HOLY COMMUNION 9:00 AM Melo Worship 10:45 AM Virtual Worship at OSL Worship	11 1:00 PM Staff Mtg	12 6:00 PM W&E 7:00 PM OSL Council	13 4:00 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation Zoom	14	15	16
17 HOLY COMMUNION 9:00 AM Melo Worship 10:45 AM Virtual Worship at OSL Worship 11:45 AM 9th Grade Confirmation in the church basement	18 1:00 PM Staff Mtg	19	20 4:00 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation Zoom	21	22	23
24 9:00 AM Melo Worship 10:00 AM Melo Annual Meeting 10:45 AM Virtual Worship at OSL Worship 11:45 Virtual Annual Meeting OSL	25 1:00 PM Staff Mtg	26	27 4:00 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation Zoom	28	29	30
31 9:00 AM Melo Worship 10:45 AM Virtual Worship at OSL Worship	Song Leaders: Jan 3 Katie Benson Jan 10 Darby Boe Jan 17 Katie Benson Jan 24 Darby Boe Jan 31 Katie Benson		Melo Custodian Dec 27-Jan 3 Aaron & Kelli Knoll Jan 10-Jan 17 Jim & Karen Pearson		Jan 24-Jan 31 Larry & Faith Rud	



- 1 - Daniel DeLisle
Deborah Erickson
Kim Kostrzewski
Patti Myrfield
A - James & Tami Duckstad
A - Mike & Donna Franks
- 2 - Chris Bodell
Mark Lydeen
Anthony Skjerven
- 3 - Kevin Hamrick
- 4 - Hollie Cheney
Camryn Fetsch
- 6 - Wyatt Bishop
- 7 - Madeline DuBore
Jim Folz
Alex Hamrick
Preston Solberg
- 8 - Florence Johnson
Hayden Sellers
Alice Swanson
- 9 - Shannon Hamrick
- 14 - Jessica Perry
Owen Wittman
- 16 - Madeline Wurtzel
- 17 - Lori Hamrick

- Virlynn Hanson
Mason Kalt
- 18 - Matthew Bergh
Betty Gustafson
Damien Scherber
- 19 - Marcielle Anderson
Micah Hamm
- 21 - Jackie Maurstad
Brooke Miller
A - Milo & Lois Monroe
- 24 - Julia Goroski
Joan Peterson
Jeremy Solvik
- 26 - Evan Mattson
Tom O'Keefe
- 28 - Ariana Hanel
Glenn Johnson
- 30 - Cory Bartels
Gavin Field
Davin Sulerud
- 31 A - Jon & Ilene Slusar



***Celebrating
milestones this
month:***

Betty Gustafson 95
Glenn Johnson 90
Joan Peterson 65

Jon & Ilene Slusar
50 years!

***Best Wishes and
may God Bless
you!***

**If your birthday or
anniversary is
incorrect or missing,
please notify the
church office.*

Happy New Year!

Bible Verses of Renewal and Hope for the Coming New

"And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." [Rev. 21:5](#)

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." [Lam. 3:22-23](#)

"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." [Is. 43:18-19](#)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." [2 Cor. 5:17](#)

"Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead." [Phil. 3:13](#)

"Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." [Acts 3:19](#)

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." [Jer. 29:11](#)

"But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." [Is. 40:31](#)

"I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them..." [Ez. 11:19](#)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." [Prov. 3:5-6](#)

"May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed." [Ps. 20:4](#)

"You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths drip with abundance." [Ps. 65:11](#)

OUR SAVIOR'S & MELO
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

220 W JOHNSON AVE
WARREN MN 56762

www.oursaviors-melo.org

Lessons for January 2021

Jan 3

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:10-18

Jan 10

Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

Jan 17

1 Samuel 3:1-10
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51



Jan 24

Jonah 3:1-5,10
Psalm 62:5-12
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

Jan 31

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:29-39