

Our Saviour's & Balsamlund Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News



For October 8 , 2023

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 10/8/23—10/14/23



SUNDAY Micah 1:1-16
MONDAY Micah 2:1-13
TUESDAY Micah 3:1-12
WEDNESDAY Micah 4:1-5:1
THURSDAY Micah 5:2-15
FRIDAY Micah 6:1-16
SATURDAY Micah 7:1-20

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Church Website: www.oslcsebek.org
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WEEKLY CALENDAR

10/8 Time after Pentecost / Lectionary 27

9am Fellowship TBD
9am Sunday School
10am Worship / Men's Breakfast

10/11 Wednesday

9am Quilters
1-5pm Janet Eckman SAM in office
5pm Finance Committee Mtg
6:30pm Confirmation

10/15 Time after Pentecost / Lectionary 28

No Fellowship
No Sunday School
10am Worship w/Balsamlund at Hewitt Community Center. Pancake Brunch after, 11am-1pm.



Balsamlund Announcements:

If you know of someone who would like a visitation please let the office or Janet Eckman SAM know and we will accommodate the request in the best possible way.

Continued prayers for the recoveries of Pastor Tom Kolden and Todd Eckman.

October 15 - Worship and Fall Pancake Brunch are being held at the Hewitt Community Center, 509 E 3rd Avenue in Hewitt MN. 10am Worship. 11am-1pm Brunch. OSLC members are encouraged to attend since there will be no Sunday Worship in Sebeka for them this day.

Remember to vote for the roof options. There was a letter sent to members and ballots will be available for asking at the October 15th Joint Worship & Pancake Brunch in Hewitt.

OSLC Announcements:

Fall Bazaar. Saturday, October 7, 9am-12:30pm. Join in on the festivities and the lunch.

October 15 - Together, Balsamlund Lutheran Church and OSLC will Worship at 10am at the Hewitt Community Center on 509 E 3rd Avenue in Hewitt, MN. A Pancake Brunch will be served afterwards from 11am-1pm. There will be no Worship or Sunday School at OSLC in Sebeka.

October 22, 11am-2pm —90th Birthday Party. Luncheon & Debbie cake for Joan Salo! Hosted by her family following Worship. All are welcome !

2023 Thanksgiving Meal News:

All good things must come to an end and it is with great sadness that we have learned that after 12 years of giving up time with their own families; Janet Eckman, Alicia Ahrendt and Heidi Mattson have decided to end their reign as hosts to the OSLC annual community Thanksgiving Meal. We would like to send out a huge thank you to them for keeping it going for so long and wish them an amazing day of spending time with their families on Thanksgiving - enjoy the turkey and parade!!

With this announcement comes the need for others to step up and come forward in order to keep this event alive and kicking. We are asking anyone that is interested in helping to host this event at OSLC please contact Janet ASAP. Both her and Alicia have said that they will pass on their years of knowledge so you will not be floundering! Gather some friends, whether they are OSLC members or not, and let her know that you would be willing to lead this community event! If no one steps forward by October 11, we will look at putting it out to the community to see if anyone else would like to take over.

In the last couple of weeks, we have donated to People's Church in Bemidji. I want to delve into that a little bit. Maureen and Jim Drags-eth delivered our gifts given by both Balsamlund and OSLC to Peoples Church and the contact that Maureen & Jim made there is Julia Plum who is a SAM. She was so grateful. Not only for the gifts of gloves, meat sticks, handwarmers, etc. They also were excited to get the plain white paper boxes that Maureen & Jim had packed the gifts in.

As Maureen said in her moment in front of OSLC on Sunday they are in dire need of so many things (see lists below). The church they are in is an older building that is not a church building, but they are using as a church. People's Church hires night staff because can have about 20 people there that are sleeping in the church. They do not have money to pay for daily staff, but SAM Julia is there some of the time.

Think about that? Homelessness always seems so far away. Something you only see in larger areas like Minneapolis, Atlanta, Chicago, or other larger cities. Bemidji has a population of 15,434 as of 2019. I couldn't find any recent data on homelessness in Beltrami County but in 2012 they guesstimated between 250 to 350 people.

We can all speculate on why they are homeless. Each of them has a story that got them where they are at. One of the things we spoke about thoroughly at the Anti-Racism training I attended was people's stories. We all have this story in our head about groups of people and homeless people are one of those groups. The stories that we may think about are – they are lazy – they were not responsible for the money they did have – they steal – they are dirty – they have no pride. However, when you speak to an individual in this group you may hear a different story than what is in our head. They may have had health challenges or someone they loved did and all of their money went towards medical expenses. They may have lost their job to downsizing and have not been able to find another one. It is awfully hard to find or apply for a job without an address. I have been blessed with a large family that would help me out, but not everyone has that or maybe they have burned the bridges with their family. God doesn't ask us to listen to the stories in our heads, but he wants to open our hearts to each individual's story and reach out and help where we can. God loves one and all and especially in his heart are ones in need. This is a calling we can pass down to our children as we put our words and faith into action by caring for our fellow neighbor. Whether our neighbor is in Bemidji MN, Sebeka, Aldrich, Bertha, Hewitt, Staples, Verndale or across the world our calling is to put that faith in God into action and reach out and serve.

If you feel the calling to donate to People's Church in Bemidji below is what they are asking for. People's Church accepts **in-kind donations** of bedding, hygiene, and cleaning supplies, but due to space needs, we do not accept toys, household items, books, electronics, and most clothing. (Socks are great, and winter outerwear is accepted during the cold season.

CHURCH NEEDS

Blankets, Coffee, Sugar/Creamer, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Bread, Milk, Cereal, Cleaning Supplies, Hygiene supplies.

Contact information:

Office Contacts

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