

Zion Lutheran Church 308 Lambert Street PO Box 56 Oklee, MN 56742 218-796-5128

Oklee Lutheran Parish

March 2025

Parish Secretary Bonny Cote bcote@okleelutheran.org 612-840-9401



Salem Lutheran Church 29531 180th St SE PO Box 56 Oklee, MN 56742

Check out our website: OkleeLutheran.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

3: Emily Kolstoe
Bryn Vettleson

5: Theo Knutson

10: Shelby Sherman

11: Amy Sherman

12: Jaden Parsley

13: Lisa Kolstoe

15: Kristy Stoneouse

19: Mike Dessellier

Kvson Larson

20: Terry Whalen

21: Carol Kvasager

Elliot Brekke

23: William Larson

24: Shirley Dessellier

Natalie Hendrickson

25: Loretta Syrtveit

Ron Hegge

26: Ellen Hegge

27: Gloria Torkelson

31: Lola Hendrickson

Anniversaries

21: Mike & Grace Dessellier

If you would like to add a birthday or anniversary, contact Bonny Cote at 218-796-4688 or email: bcote@okleelutheran.org





- The Parish Board meeting will be on **Thursday, March 6th** at 7:00 p.m.
- Zion's next council meeting is **Wednesday**, **April 2rd** at 8:00 p.m. following Service.
- Salem's next council meeting is **Tuesday, April 8th** at 6:30 p.m.

Please attend your meetings!
It is important to be there to support your church & community.



Salem Ushers List

Sun. March 2: Kyle Vettleson
Sun. March 9: Lisa Kolstoe
Wed. March 12: Erica Motteberg
Sun. March 16: Josh Vettleson
Sun. March 23: David Hofstad
Wed. March 26: Ginny Stoneouse
Sun. March 30: Shirley Dessellier

Zion Ushers List

Sun. March 2: Jami Hendrickson Wed, March 5: Confirmation Kids Sun. March 9: Sarah Beth Lee Sun. March 16: Kari Hamm Confirmation Kids Sun. March 23: Marcella Melby Sun. March 30: Sarah Jo Lee

*** Remember, if you are not able to usher the date you are assigned, it is your responsibility to find your replacement.***

~ Parish News ~



Violet Cote passed away peacefully on January 27, 2025.



Joanne Voeltz passed away peacefully on February 8, 2025.





Chime choir practice Wednesday evenings at 6:00PM If you are interested in chime choir please call Patty Mickelson at 218-280-5696, or simply show up at Zion on Wednesday at 6:00PM!!

Monthly BIBLE Verses

March 2:

Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2; Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

March 9:

Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

March 16:

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27;(Ps. 27:5) Philippians 3:17—4:1; Luke 13:31-35

March 23:

Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38

March 30

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Salem News

Salem WELCA Meets

Note the Date Change: This month the meeting is set for Monday, **March 3rd** at 7:00 p.m. Erica Motteber is the Bible Study Leader and the Hostess. All ladies of the congregationare encouraged to attend.



Salem Working on a History Book Need Family Histories

Alice is still working on the History of Salem. If you haven't sent in your information, please do as soon as possible.

At the 2023 Salem annual meeting, July 13, 2025, was set as a date to celebrate Salem's 130th anniversary since the 125th anniversary fell during covid. As part of the celebration we will be putting together a new history book. We'd like to include a section on family histories in the book. Some possible things to include in your family history are the family members, marriage year, parents, children, grandchildren, occupations, family connection to Salem, anything you'd like to share about your family for future generations. Please include a picture or two. Articles and photos may be emailed to Alice Hofstad at alicehofstad@okleelutheran.org.

Zion News

Zion WELCA Meets

This month the meeting is set for Tuesday, **March 4th** at 7:00 p.m. All ladies of the congregationare encouraged to attend.

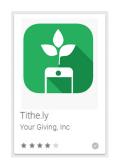
Please Take Note...

If you know someone who would like to get the newsletter or should be added to the list for the newsletter. Example: your child that has moved away from home. Please contact Bonny Cote at 612-840-9401 or email her at bcote@ okleelutheran.org to add them on to the list.



Update: You now have six choices to choose from to make your donation:

- Oklee Lutheran Parish
- Parish Youth Group
- Zion Church
- Salem Church
- Zion Cemetery
- Salem Cemetery



Please continue to be generous in your support!

Use the Tithe.ly app

The Link is on our website: okleelutheran.org

or

Try our QR Code

Thank You!!



Easter Flowers at Salem & Zion

Signup for Easter flowers will be from March 2 to March 30. Price is to be determined.

Contact Kay Munt at Zion or Stacey Hofstad at Salem.



March is Food Shelf Month

Salem will be taking a donation collection for the local food shelf during services on March 16.



Pictures are Appreciated for the newsletter.

Please consider taking and sharing pictures of special services and events.



Salem Sunday School is held at 9:00 AM Zion Sunday School is held at 10:00AM.

Salem Sunday School Page - https://www. facebook.com/Salem16vbs/



Zion Sunday School Page - https://www. facebook.com/Zion-Lutheran-Church-Sunday-School-102359373581873/

Oklee Lutheran Parish - https://www.facebook.com/okleeparish/



2025 Zion Altar Schedule

January: Jami Hendrickson/Sarah Lee February: Marcella Melby/Kari Hamm

March: Bonny Cote April: Liz Follmann May: Cheryl O'Neill June: Ashley Halvorson/ Nancy Gunderson

July: <u>VACANT-need new person</u> August: Ione Nelson/Amanda Nelson

September: Kaye Munt

October: Sheryl Fore/Jo Ann Lerohl November: Diane Hanson December: Patty Mickelson

2025 Salem Altar Schedule

January - Pam Vettleson February - Toni Johnson March - Jenny O'Neill April - Cindy Rystad

April - Cindy Rystad May - Jordan Larson

June - Sandra Tougas

July - Toni Johnson



Greetings from
Inter-County
Community
Council (ICCC),
your local
Community Action
Agency



This month I wanted to share some information about the statewide MN Food Share March Campaign for food shelves.

Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign, brings together organizations, businesses, faith communities, and individuals to help stock and support the capacity of nearly 300 food shelves. During this time, 100% of the donations designated to Minnesota Foodshare during the March Campaign go into the FoodFund and are distributed to

participating food shelves.

ICCC participates in this each year and appreciates the support from the community to fund our food shelf. This year, the Campaign will run March 1-April 6, 2025. All local food shelves keep track of all donations given during this time period and report back to the

FoodShare March Campaign. From



there a match amount is given back to us based off of what is raised locally during that time period.

Last year ICCC served 162 households and gave out 30,382 pounds of food. That's the weight equivalent of eight and a half average sized sedans!

If you have any questions, please reach out. Thank you for supporting our Food Shelf.

Thank you for the opportunity to share space in your newsletter. To learn more about ICCC you can visit www.intercountycc.org or call me directly at 218-796-5144 ext 1027.

Yours in action- Catherine Johnson, Executive Director.

JAYS OF LENT

March 5: Ash Wednesday -- 7 PM Zion March 12: 6 PM Meal. 7 PM at Salem March 19: 6 PM Meal. 7 PM at Zion

March 26: 6 PM Meal. 7 PM at Salem

April 2: 6 PM Meal. 7 PM at Zion

April 9: 6 PM Meal. 7 PM at Salem

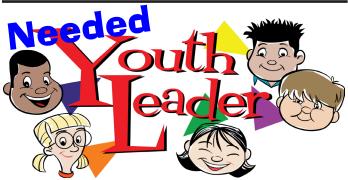
April 13: Palm Sunday Zion: 9 AM Worship. 10:30 AM SS. Salem: 9 AM SS. 10:30 AM Worship.

April 17 - Maundy Thursday: 7 PM at Salem

April 18 - Good Friday: 7 PM at Zion

Easter Sunday

March 31: 9 AM Zion, 10:30 AM Salem No Sunday School at either church



Current leaders have stepped down effective Jan 1, 2025. If interested in serving as Youth Group leaders, please reach out to the Parish Board.



Follow Oklee Lutheran Parish on FACEBOOK & YouTube

Worship Services are available at 10 AM on our Oklee Lutheran Parish FACEBOOK page and YouTube channel and

on GVTEL Channel 35 at 10 p.m. on Wednesday and repeated the following Sunday.

Salem Financials

Salem Lutheran Church

Beginning Balance December 10, 2024 \$32,553.25

Income:

Offerings \$10,712.00

Trans From Building Fund \$1,390.00

Total Cash Available \$44,655.25

Expenses:

 Christine Hince
 \$50.00

 RLC Coop
 \$414.99

 RLEC
 \$205.98

Total Expenses \$670.97 Ending Balance December 31, 2024 \$43,984.28

Income:

Offerings \$5,740.91

Total Cash Available \$49,725.19

Expenses:

 Chelsey Vettleson
 \$765.00

 Parish
 \$4,237.80

 Schafer Electric
 \$359.85

 RLC Coop
 \$519.00

 RLEC
 \$278.02

 Safety Deposit Box
 \$8.00

Total Expenses \$6,167.67 Ending Balance January 31, 2025 \$43,557.52

Income:

Offerings \$529.00

Total Cash Available \$529.00

Expenses:

Parish \$4,237.80

Total Expenses \$4,237.80

Ending February 10, 2025 \$39,848.72

Salem Minutes

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Feb. 11th, 2025

Attendance: Josh Vettleson, Paula Christianson, Lisa Kolstoe, David Hofstad, Ginny Stoneouse, Alice Hofstad, Ron Hegge, Erica Motteberg, Shirley Dessellier. Ginny led meeting with prayer.

Secretary's report read by Paula. Motion to approve, Approved by 1st Ron, 2nd by Shirley.

Financial Secretary's report: None

Treasurer's report read by Lisa Motion to approve, Approved by 1st Paula, 2nd by Ginny.

Old Business:

Photographer for family photos of the Church Directory is still needed. Continued discussion around creating the book and printing options. TRF times and Richard's Publishing may have options for the directory, Erica will get more information on TRF Times. David will discuss with the parish board.

Door in pastors room needs to be replaced. Measurements are needed and building maintenance will order the door at Oklee Lumber. Back entry door will be painted but we will table this until spring cleanup day. The Toiletries drive for Inter Country will be held during the month of March. Lisa will notify Bonny to add to the newsletter and Facebook for donations. A table will be set up at the Church for donations and a list of acceptable items will be posted.

Discussion on storage for Sunday school supplies and a need for shelving or cabinet to keep the utilities closet free for easy access for maintenance. The west wall in the basement would be a possible option for a storage cabinet.

Council has an updated Salem Membership list; Ginny will turn in the list to Bonny. There are 135 confirmed members, but some could be considered as Inactive. Inactive status is defined as Member has not attended church or contributed financial in 3 years. They will remain a member of Salem church but will have an Inactive status until one of the forementioned criteria changes.

Bathroom remodel will be scheduled in March. Council members and building maintenance to prepare bathrooms for new flooring, and we'll also need help on install of toilets, vanities and accessories.

New Business:

A new line item has been added to the budget for the MN State license for the chair lift. Pastor Jonathan Dodson offered his help to join a parish meeting to discuss pulpit supply. Council discussed next steps on a call committee. Kevin Reich will be at Salem for March services.

Lent services start March 5th, Ash Wednesday at Zion. We will continue with the Holden Prayer services. Erica will graciously donate her time to signing during services. Light meals will be served before service by confirmation

kids and their families at Salem. Donations will go to Board of Ed for confirmation and children's education.

The confirmation banquet for Salem students will be held at Salem. This year, families, friends, and mentors are invited. Due to space constraints and the large number of students, the council decided to limit the banquet to Salem students and their invited guests. The Salem WELCA will provide the meal. The motion to approve this plan, 1st by Ginny and seconded by Lisa, motion was carried.

A joint church service at 10:00 AM was discussed for the 130th Anniversary Celebration on July 13th.

Council reviewed Election of officer duties and nomination elections are as follows:

President: David Hofstad Vice President: Josh Vettleson Secretary: Paula Christianson Education: Erica Motteberg Financial Secretary: Kyle Vettleson

Treasure: Lisa Kolstoe

Property Management: Wyatt Vettleson, Ron Hegge, Leif Kolstoe

Deacon: Ginny Stoneouse, Shirley Dessellier, Alice Hofstad Parish Board: David Hofstad, Kyle Vettleson, Josh Vettleson Board of Education: Erica Motteberg, Chelsey Vettleson, Jill Kolstoe

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Motion to Adjourn, approved: 1st by Josh, 2nd by Ron. **Next Meeting Date:** April 8th, 6:30pm.

Salem Financial Part 2

Saiem	rınan	ciai Part 4	4	
Cemetery Perpetual C	are Savings:		\$13,509.22	
Interest			\$64.58	
Deposit: D	onations		\$0.00	
Memorials	: :			
Cemetery Maintenand	e Fund Savin	gs:	\$8,599.98	
Income: TI	nrivent		\$61.14	
CD Interes	st:			
Interest			\$31.01	
Deposits:			\$475.00	
To Genera	l Fund			
Building Fund Savings			\$4,859.87	
Interest			\$19.21	
Deposits:				
Transfers				
Memorial Fund Saving	(s:		\$3,096.47	
Interest	,		\$11.80	
Memorials	::			
CD #14297		Cemetery Perp. Care	4.50% Maturity	5/25/2025
CD #14298	\$5,819.43	Cemetery Maint.	4.50% Maturity	5/25/2025

Thrivent Mutual Fund balance as of December 31, 2024 = 8448.08

Zion Minutes & Financials

Zion Lutheran Church Meeting Minutes Date: February 5th, 2025

Members Present: Jami Hendrickson, Cheryl O'Neill, Chad Parsley, Kari Hamm, Patty Mickelson, Sarah Beth Lee, Gin Berns

Also in attendance: Marcella Melby, Treasurer MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY Co-President, Cheryl O'Neill.

The secretary's report was read. 1st - Patty 2nd – Kari Motion Approved

Treasurer's report: Submitted by Marcella Melby. Motion made to accept report: 1st - Jami 2nd – Patty Motion Approved

Old Business: The steps need repair. We will discuss in the spring about repairing them.

New Business and Reorganization:

Fish Fry: March 28th at the Oklee Hall.

Lent Meals: The church will do meals before the Lent service on the days that the service will be at Zion.

Spring Auction: April 13th. The Ladies Aid will be asked if they would like to do the meal during the auction.

Oklee Market Days: The church will have its hamburger stand on Saturday morning during Oklee Market Days.

Sarah Jo Lee, Sarah Beth Lee, and Mandy Klasen: Board of Education

Melanie Kirkpatrick will be doing our services on the 9th and 23rd of February, Liz F. will be doing the joint service at Zion on the 16th.

Ushering for February/March:

February 9: Gin

February 16: Joint with Zion Cheryl

February 23: Patty March 2: Jami

March 9: Sarah Beth

March 16: Kari

March 23: Marcella

March 30: Sarah Jo

April 6: Chad

Members of Council and year their term ends

President: Cheryl O'Neill 1st Term 2026 Vice President: Gin Berns 2nd Term 2026 Secretary: Jami Hendrickson 2nd Term 2027

Property & Management: Sarah Jo Lee 1st Term 2025, Sarah Beth Lee 1st Term 2025, John Pendelton 2nd Term, 2025.

Deacons: Norman Nelson 2nd Term 2026, Kari Hamm 1st Term 2026, Patty Mickelson 1st Term 2027.

The Lord Prayer was read,

Meeting adjorned: 1st Patty, 2nd Sarah Jo, Motion Carried.

1/31/2025 Zion Lutheran Church Financial Statement

Balance 12/1/2024			\$	2,080.45
Income				
Offerings	\$	2,030.00		
WELCA Donaton	\$	1,800.00		
Egg Bake Fundraiser	\$	460.00		
Room Rental Payment	\$	300.00		
Transfer from Memorial Fund (LL)	\$	662.52		
Memorial Donation - Brad Gunderson	\$	1,000.00		
Total Income			\$	6,252.52
Budgeted Expenses				
Parish Pmt (Nov.)	\$	3,965.48		
Ottertail	\$	141.69		
SSB (Safety Deposit Box Rent	\$	10.00		
Synod	\$	600.00		
Lending Library Reimbursement (Melby		662.52		
Richards Publishing (Advertisements)	\$	24.00		
, usual as it as in mig (it are it as in entro)	\$	5,403.69		
Non- Budgeted Expenses				
	\$			
Total Expenses	•		\$	5,403.69
Ending Balance 12-31-2024			\$	2,929.28
Balance 1/1/2025			\$	2,929.28
Income				
	¢.	3,379.00		
Offerings Tithely (Nov. & Dec)	\$ \$	1,315.00		
Church Mutual Ins. Refund	φ \$	472.17		
Social Service Room Usage Donation	φ \$	400.00		
Thrivent Donation	э \$	18.00		
Total Income			\$	5,584.17
			·	.,
Budgeted Expenses				
Parish Pmt (Jan.)	\$	3,750.35		
Ottertail	\$	290.40		
Cenex (fuel)	\$	3.25		
	\$	4,044.00		
Non- Budgeted Expenses				
	\$	-		
	Ψ			
Total Expenses Ending Balance 1-31-25	Ψ		<u>\$</u> \$	4,044.00

Passbook Savings

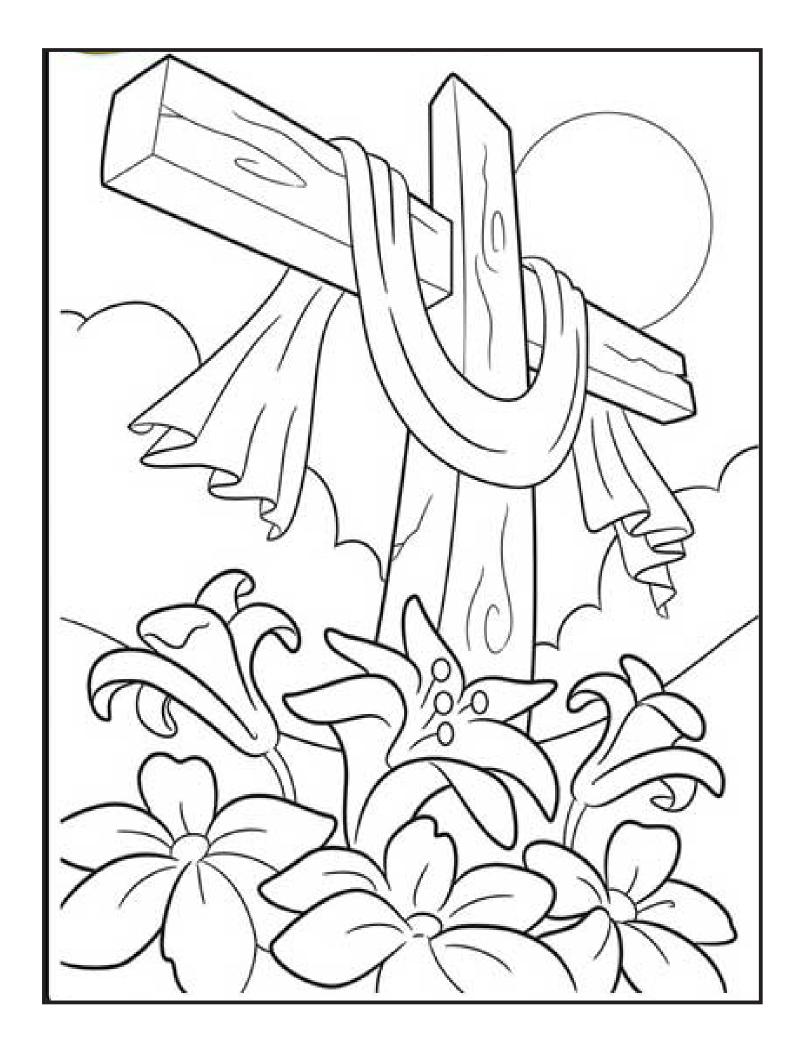
Grace McManus Scholarship \$11,430.05

Note: Interest Earned beyond \$10,000 will be used for scholarships

Building Fund		\$4,823.96
Elevator	\$934.00	
Windows	\$3,056.78	
Undesignated	\$833.18	
Memorial Fund		\$7,699.38
Undesignated	\$5,069.67	
Sunday School	\$345.00	
Building Fund	\$2,154.71	
Elevator	\$130.00	

Next meeting Wednesday, April 2nd at 8:00 p.m. After Lent Service.

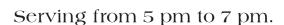
Submitted by Jami Hendrickson



Zion Lutheran Church Walleye Fish Fry

Friday, March 28th

Oklee Hall



Everyone Welcome

Menu: Red Lake Walleye, Baked Potato, Coleslaw, Dessert and Beverage

1-fillet: \$15.00 or 2 fillets: \$20.00

Eat In or Take Out!



SALEM & ZION LUTHERAN CHURCHES

ARE HAVING A SPRING TOILETRY DRIVE DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH

ITEMS NEEDED:
TOILET PAPER
SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER

HAND SOAPS
CHAPSTICK
DEODORANTS
LOTIONS Q-TIPS
COTTON BALLS

DROP BOXES WILL BE AT EACH CHURCH



Zion Confirmation kids had another stop on their "stages of life" journey touring the Pennington County Justice Center. We learned about the court system as well as how the jail works.

Pictured are: Parker, Jackson, Easton, Officer Thibert, Trevor, Avery & Taylor.





Front row: Marcella Melby, Jami Hendrickson, Patty Mickelson., Cheryl O'Neill. Back row: Gin Berns, Kari Hamm Sarah Beth Lee, Chad Parsley, Not present were: Norman Nelson, & John Pendelton.



Front row: Shirley Dessellier, Ron Hegge, Josh Vettleson, Ginny Stoneouse. Back row: Lisa Kolstoe, Paula Christianson, David Hofstad, Erica Motteberg, Alice Hofstad. Not present were Kyle Vettleson, Wyatt Vettleson and Leif Kolstoe.

2024 Council Lists for Zion & Salem

Zion:

President: Cheryl O'Neill V. President: Gin Berns Treasurer: Marcella Melby Secretary: Jami Hendrickson

Property & Management: Sarah Beth Lee,

John Pendelton, Sarah Jo Lee, and Chad Parsley

Deacons: Norman Nelson, Patty Mickelson, and Kari Hamm. Board of Ed: Sarah Jo Lee, Sarah Beth Lee and Mandy

Klasen.

Parish Board: Cheryl O'Neill, Gin Berns, Jami Hendrickson.

Salem:

President: David Hofstad V. President: Josh Vettleson Secretary: Paula Christianson Treasurer: Lisa Kolstoe Financial Sec.: Kyle Vettleson

Property & Management: Wyatt Vettleson, Ron Hegge,

and Leif Kolstoe.

Deacons: Ginny Stoneouse, Shirley Dessellier, Alice Hofstad.

Board of Ed: Erica Motteberg, Chelsey Vettelson and Jill Kolstoe.

Parish Board: David H., Kyle V. & Josh V.

	for this month.	two communion dates t	Note: March 23rd and 30th will be the two communion dates for this month.	Note: March	31	30 Communion 9:00 a.m. Zion 9:00 a.m. Salem SS 10:00 a.m. Zion SS 10:30 a.m Salem
29	28	27	Lent Service 6:00 p.m. Meal 7:00 p.m. Salem	25	24	23 Communion 9:00 a.m. Zion 9:00 a.m. Salem SS 10:00 a.m. Zion SS 10:30 a.m Salem
22	21	20 HEMORINGI	19 Lent Service 6:00 p.m. Meal 7:00 p.m. Zion.	18	Patrick's Day	16 9:00 a.m. Zion 9:00 a.m. Salem SS 10:00 a.m. Zion SS 10:30 a.m Salem
15	14	13	Lent Service 6:00 p.m. Meal 7:00 p.m. Salem	11	10	9 9:00 a.m. Zion 9:00 a.m. Salem SS 10:00 a.m. Zion SS 10:30 a.m Salem
Spring Forward	7	ာ	S Ash Wednesday Ash Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Zioin	Zion WELCA 7:00 p.m.	3 Salem WELCA 7:00 p.m.	2 9:00 a.m. Zion 9:00 a.m. Salem SS 10:00 a.m. Zion SS 10:30 a.m Salem
1			Zion Ushers Mar. 2: Jami H. Mar. 5: Conf. Kids Mar. 9: Sara Beth L. Mar. 16: Kari H. Mar. 19: Conf. Kids Mar. 23: Marcella M. Mar. 30: Sarah Jo L.	Salem Ushers Mar. 2: Kyle V Mar. 9: Lisa K Mar. 12: Erica M Mar. 16: Josh V Mar. 23: David H Mar. 26: Ginny S Mar. 30: Shirley D	Salem Altar Jenny O'Neill	Zion Altar Bonny Cote
^{April} ► Saturday	Friday	Thursday	March 2025 Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	February Sunday

The Newsletter deadline will be the first Saturday after the 15th of the month. Please send your contributions to Bonny by email to bcote@okleelutheran.org.

Or call or text Bonny at 612-840-9401. Thank you!!



March 2025 Newsletter

Non-Profit
U. S. Postage
Paid
Permit # 16
Oklee, MN 56742

Oklee Lutheran Parish
Salem and Zion Lutheran Churches
PO Box 56
Oklee, MN 56742