



JULY 2024 ISSUE 187

Newsletter for the Odell and Diller Communities



Fun-Filled Day in Odell

From Sand Volleyball to Live Music and Fireworks Odell had something for all ages on Saturday, June 29, 2024. This annual event is hosted by Odell Area Community Enrichment, a volunteer ran local organi-

zation. Odell Day has been an annual event since the 1970s. The volunteers work hard to make this day happen and plan for months ahead. If you would like to help out with Odell Day 2025,

or any other activities throughout the year, come to an OACE meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month. The more volunteers that join together, the easier it is to make events happen!



Our Savior Lutheran Church Odell Opens New Building

On May 13, 1926, Our Savior Lutheran Church was organized. Eight charter members signed the constitution: Adam Germeroth, Louis Lueker, Matthew Hahmann, Louis C. Lueker, Fred Koenig, Conrad Germeroth, Rudolph Duensing, and Alvin M. Lueker. Because the



congregation did not have a church building, services were conducted in the Odell United Methodist Church for about a year. In the fall of 1926, a Luther Day Celebration was held in Kostal Grove, at which a collection of \$100 was realized. The members then contributed more, and a building site was purchased for \$600. In October 1926, a 28 ' x 50' structure was began on the site—built entirely of clay tile, with stucco on the outside and plaster on the inside. Cost was \$4500. On June 26, 1927, the building was dedicated. In 1948, the congregation had a large growth and in 1949 were able to add a 37' addition to the building on the west (chancel & 2 wings). In 1951 the basement was improved and restrooms were added. Throughout the decades as the needs changed for the congregation, different building committees were formed. In 1987, a plan was proposed to put an addition on and provide an elevator to access the basement and restrooms, at a cost of \$25,000 to \$30,000, this proposal (Cont'd on page 5) Kindness is choosing love over hate, kindness over darkness, and compassion over judgement





Odell Day Fun from above photo moving clockwise: State Bank of Odell takes one last parade route as they are celebrated for their decades of service and honored as the Grand Marshalls of the parade. Earl Adam is honored as the Veteran of the parade. Egg Toss fun, Lil' Tuggers Tractor Pull, Hannah Penner & Brooklyn Barr participate in the Chalk Art Contest. Fun on the Free Inflatables in the park, Thanks to Angie Meyer and Brady Meyer for providing delicious lunch options.











It costs you nothing to be kind.







Odell Day photos at left: Sand Volleyball Winners: Korey Theye, Jamie Schluter, Mercedes Schramm, Makenzie Vitosh, Josie Vitosh, & Dane Hinrichs. Egg Toss Winners: Peyton Humphreys & Cale Clifford. Red Neck Olympics Winners: Tanner Nun (FFA Sponsor), Connor Klecan, Cooper Ebeling, Dalton Bures, & Esdon Weers. Thanks to the Corner Bar for providing space for the Live Music & entertainment—Tanner Parde & Scott Lane. Photo above: Scavenger Hunt winners: Daylon Theye, Kay Theye, Macy Meyer, & Kelly Burken.







HELP WANTED

- PART TIME
- FLEXIBLE HOURS
- HAVE TO BE 19 YEARS OLD
- Would work kitchen and front
- Contact Jill @ 402-806-9201



Odell Library HOURS Tue: 2-6 p Wed: 4-6 p Thu: 3-5 p Fri: 9-11 a Sat: 10a-12p "If you can't figure out how to be kind, figure out how to be guiet."-

The Odell United Methodist Church

(who shares ministry with the Ellis Methodist Church) Would like to invite you to join us in our services in July 2024. We are a small, very welcoming congregation

open to anyone who would care to join us.

Our Schedule for July 2024 July 7 - Connie Carpenter at both churches, 9:00 Ellis, 10:30 Odell July 14 - Art Moore & Communion at both churches, 9:00 Ellis, 10:30 Odell July 21- Dennis Holst at both churches 9:00 Ellis, 10:30 Odell July 28 - Connie Carpenter at both churches 9:00 Ellis, 10:30 Odell

IOIN US! everyone welcome!

Wednesday evenings @ 7 pm

eason 7

Episode 1 -July 10

Promises

Our Savior Lutheran Church - Odell

ODELL BUCKS FOR PRIZES! ODELL MARKET COFFEE SHOP

1 episode per evening with a short devotion following. Bring your own drink. pcorn provided



OACE Meeting

MONDAY, JULY 22, 2024 **7:00 pm**

ODELL FIRE HALL On the Agenda:



"It takes courage to be kind."—Maya Angelou



Above Photo: Pastor Greg Stuckwisch (Pastor of OSL since July 2013) gives a message as the original pieces from the old building are moved into the new building on June 23, 2024.

(cont'd from cover) voted down. In 2000, a proposal to construct a new building that would meet the needs in the mission of the church. In 2020, the congregaof the current congregation—which included more space for Sunday School classes, more space for the congregation, and handicap accessibility-at an rough estimated cost from a local contractor of \$525,000. Not enough pledge commitments were received and it 2020 progressed and prices rose rapidly, the aim was was determined to not have sufficient funding to go ahead with this project. Facilities committees continued to happen throughout the years as the same concerns and needs were there. A handicap ramp was added in 2004, the narthex area, and basement kitchen, and women's restroom were remodeled in 2011. The Sanctuary was renovated in 2013. In the years following this, noticeable movement of the interior walls was observed. The roof was beginning to sag, engineers were consulted and it was determined that the original tile foundation and construction was slowing crumbling, compromising the stability of the roof and entire structure. It was also determined that adding on to this current structure was not possible. In 2018, work was began to see what the current congregation felt were the top needs for Our Savior



Above Photo: OSL congregation members finish up on Sunday, June 23 to prepare for the dedication of the new building on June 30, 2024.

Lutheran Church—both in the physical structure and tion voted to begin the planning process to build a new facility. The Plan was for 2 structures to be built-one with the Sanctuary and Restrooms and one with Class rooms, Kitchen, and Fellowship Hall. As to construct the Sanctuary structure and discuss next steps after that. Ground was broke on November 6, 2022 for this new Sanctuary.

On Sunday, June 23, 2024, a decommissioning ceremony was held for the original church building, following by the moving of the altar, baptismal font, pews, lectern, pulpit, and organ. On Sunday, June 30, 2024 a dedication ceremony was held for the new building. The congregation plans to continue prayer and discussion regarding the second building.

The growth of a small, rural church is very unusual in these times, with small churches closing and numbers of Pastors retiring compared to entering the field rising, other congregations in our region are looking to Our Savior in Odell as a sign of hope.





"Choosing kindness is choosing wisdom."

SNC2



Who is at risk for skin cancer?

ANYONE can get skin cancer but there are some things that increase your risk: Your Skin Needs You - NC2 Skin Cancer Campaign Key Messages and Talking Points

The Nebraska Cancer Coalition's (NC2) campaign, "Your Skin Needs You" creates awareness of the dangers of skin cancer, the most common type of cancer in the United States. Skin cancer is also one of the most preventable cancers. By sharing information about skin cancer and sun safety, we can save lives.

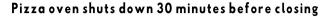
Key Message #1: There are several types of skin cancer, with melanoma being the most dangerous.

- Melanoma of the skin is the 5th most common cancer in Nebraska.
- In 2024, the American Cancer Society estimates 660 new cases of melanoma in Nebraska.
- In 2024, the American Cancer Society estimates 60 deaths from melanoma in Nebraska.
- Melanoma cancer incidence and mortality rates are higher in Nebraska when compared to overall U.S. rates.

Key Message #2: There are certain factors that put people at higher risk for skin cancer.

- Spending time outdoors without protecting your skin from the sun or being sunburned exposes skin to more damage and increases the risk for melanoma.
- Having 5 or more sunburns doubles your risk for melanoma.





DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS MONDAY-FRIDAY



- 64% of high school students in grades 9-12 and 29% of adults aged 18 years or older in the U.S. reported being sunburned in the past year.
- People with lighter skin, blond or red hair, blue or green eyes, or skin that freckles or burns easily are at a higher risk for developing melanoma.
- People with many moles, moles that cover a large area of skin or moles that are unusual have a higher risk of melanoma.
- Other factors that increase risk include being 50 or older, having a weakened immune system, having a personal history of melanoma or other skin cancer, or having a family history of melanoma. (cont'd next page)



Key Message #3: Early detection of skin cancer can save lives.

- The stage of disease at diagnosis strongly affects the outcome for melanoma patients. The most recent national data indicates that the 5-year relative survival rates for melanoma are 99% for early-stage diagnoses, while rates for advanced-stage cases fall to 74% for regional diagnoses and 35% for distant diagnoses.
- Many healthcare providers recommend doing a skin selfexam once a month to check for any new growths or changes in existing moles or other spots.
- Regular skin exams are often a part of routine health check-ups and are especially important for people at higher risk of melanoma who should have them done once a year.
- As of January 1, 2020, there are an estimated 2,672 survivors of melanoma in Nebraska.

Key Message #4: There are many sun safety habits that can protect Nebraskans from skin cancer.

- Avoid the sun or seek shade, especially between the hours of 10 AM and 4 PM. Only 39% of adults aged 18 years or older in the U.S. protect themselves from the sun by seeking shade.
- When out in the sun, wear clothing such as long-sleeved shirts, long pants or a skirt in darker colors to provide protection from the UV rays of the sun. Only 37% of adults aged 18 years or older in the U.S. wear protective clothing in the sun.
- Sunscreen can also protect the skin from the sun's UV rays and should be a broad spectrum with an SPF of 15 or higher. For extended outdoor activity, a water-resistant, broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher should be used and reapplied every 2 hours or after swimming or sweating. Only 37% of adults aged 18 years or older in the U.S. protect themselves from the sun by using SPF 15 or higher sunscreen.
- Wear a hat with at least a 2–3-inch brim all the way around to help protect those areas more exposed to the sun, such as the ears, eyes, forehead, nose and scalp.
- Wear UV-blocking sunglasses to protect the skin around •

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the eyes, as well as the eyes. Large frame and wraparound glasses are more likely to protect your eyes from light coming in at different angles.

Key Message #5: Children need special attention regarding sun safety and their future risk for skin cancer.

- Children tend to spend more time outdoors and can burn easily.
- Babies younger than 6 months should be kept out of direct sunlight. When using sunscreen, it should be applied to small areas of the body like the face.
- For those children older than 6 months, sunscreen should be applied to all areas of the body, being careful around the eyes.
- Use broad spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 or higher. Make sure to apply at least 15-30 minutes before going outdoors to give it time to absorb into the skin.
- For extended outdoor activity, a water-resistant, broadspectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher should be used and reapplied every 2 hours or after swimming or sweating.

Source: www.necancer.org/Skin-Cancer



Giving Our Adherence and Assent to God

Have you ever seen someone making the sign of the Cross? The gesture consists of placing one's right hand first to the forehead, then to the heart, then from the left shoulder to the right. You may have seen athletes on the playing field making the sign of the Cross.

The sign of the Cross's words begin with saying, "In the Name". As the hand is placed to the forehead, the words are "of the Father". Then to the heart, "and of the Son" is said. And then from left to right shoulder, the words are "and of the Holy Spirit. Amen." The sign of the Cross is one of the first prayers that Catholic parents teach their children.

By making the sign of the Cross, one professes and proclaims his or her faith in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This faith is a personal adherence of ourselves to God. This faith is also a free assent to the whole truth that God has revealed. These two aspects of faith, adherence and assent, are only related to God. This type of faith is different in kind from the faith we place in family and friends. God is the only one to whom we can fully entrust ourselves and believe absolutely in what he says.

Once we give to God our personal adherence and assent to his truth, it follows that a Christian be-

lieves in the beloved Son whom God the Father has sent. In Mark 1:11, the Father says he is "well pleased" with the Son and that we are to "listen to him." As the Gospels and the writings of St. Paul attest again and again, Christians believe that Jesus is himself God. Because Jesus has seen the Father, as taught in John 6:46, it follows that he is the only one who knows him and can reveal him.

Giving our personal adherence and assent to God means that we believe that the Holy Spirit, too, is truly God. In I Corinthians 12:3, it says that "no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit." To recognize who Jesus is requires that the Holy Spirit reveals his identity to us.

So the sign of the Cross is not only the outward showing of a Christian's belief in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, but also shows that one gives personal adherence and assent to the truths taught by this one God, who is a Trinity of Persons. In a world which is dismissive of God and his guidance, a good place to ground ourselves is to reaffirm our belief in the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Rev. Loras K. Grell Pastor of St. Mary Church, Odell



Diller-Odell Board of Education Elementary School Media Center-Diller June 11, 2024

Regular Board Meeting-7:30 pm

Present: Paul Kostal, Adam Engelman, Dusty Duis, Stuart Vitosh, Angie Clifford, & Kasey Murphy.

Mrs. Abigail Kostal commented on Policy #6040 Prekindergarten Program. The passage of LB71 and the possible inclusion of 5 year-olds has created a great deal of confusion. Mrs. Kostal advocated for the inclusion of 5 year-olds in the pro-

gram if space is available. Motion to approve minutes of last meeting made by Angie

Clifford seconded by Adam Engelman. Passed with 6 yea, 0 nay. Principal Mezger reported on year end activities and planning for the fall of 2024.

Anti Bullying Policy #5054 and Multicultural Policy #6020 were reviewed. Motion to update Policy #6018 made by Adam Engelman and seconded by Stuart Vitosh. Motion passed with 6 yea, 0 nay. Policy #6018 was updated to change music classes from 205 credits a semester to 5 credits a semester to match other classes. The change benefits the students, especially when transferring out to other districts.

Motion to update Policy #6005 made by Stuart Vitosh and seconded by Kasey Murphy. Motion passed with 6 yea, 0 nay. Policy #6005 Graduation requirements was updated to reflect new requirements to include Personal Finance, Career Explo-

ration, and Computer Science.

Motion to pass annual required policy updates made by Adam Engelman and seconded by Angie Clifford. Motion passed with 6 yea, 0 nay. As the annual policy updates were approved, the Board discussed policy #6040 Prekindergarten Program. Even though LB71 now makes it possible for a 5 year-old to attend Preschool, the possibility will be rare as there is no mandate to have 6 year-old Preschool. The

board's policy will reflect the following:

-The Preschool Program is for one year, primarily for 4-yearolds.

-If there is space available for 5 year-old, enrollment will be considered for those 5 year-olds that do not turn 6 by January

I of their preschool year.

-There is no possibility of two years of attendance prior to Kindergarten.

-Capacity will be limited to 15 children with an additional spot being reserved for a child that moves into the district with special needs.

For 2024-25, the program is at capacity with 4 year-olds, and the program has been full in recent years with the exception of one year.

The recommendation from the school is for parents not to count on having a spot for a 5 year-old, as the program is al-

most always at capacity with 4 year-olds. Superintendent Meyerle noted that he had hired Christie Morgan for an open Sped para position. She will spend time in both buildings.

Both HS gym floors were refinished, the track is in the process of being resurfaced, and the elementary gym floor will be refinished the week of June 24.

School personnel and Board reps will meet with Wilken's Architects this month to review plans for a possible elementary entry renovation. If a plan is accepted, it will be put out for bids this fall with the work to be done in the summer of 2025. The renovation would satisfy weaknesses in school safety and

security that have been noted in the annual safety audit. Superintendent Meyerle secured a \$75,000 grant to help finance the project. The project would move the office to the east entrance. The east entrance would become the point of entry to the school where visitors would have an immediate face to face with school personnel. He noted, should the project move forward, he plans to donate the old Eagle to the

Diller museum when that area is renovated.

Superintendent Meyerle reported that he was pleased on the financial status of the district as we approach the end of the fiscal year and he was planning on being able to lower the school district's tax request. He again reiterated that the school does not control the valuation of property, the district

can only control the tax request.

Motion to approve bills as presented made by Stuart Vitosh

and seconded by Dusty Duis. Motion passed with 6 yea, 0 nay. Motion to adjourn made by Angie Clifford and seconded by

Dusty Duis. Passed with 6 yea, 0 nay.

President Kostal adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2024, 7 pm, at HS. The meeting will be preceded by a hearing on student fees at 6:50 pm and a hearing on parental involvement at 6:55 pm



HOURS Wednesday - Friday: 4 - 8 pm Subject to close early if slow 205 Main St. Ste. C, Odell, NE



"If you spend your time looking at everyone else and judging them, you spend no time judging yourself."

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Grades: going into 1st-6th

We invite all area youth to join us for the 3rd annual Youth Serviceship Camp. This camp is free to all who attend. Lunch and snacks will be provided!

WHEN

Drop off: 8:00-8:30 Pick up: 4:00-4:30

WHERE

Sign Up

Community Building, Diller, NE

Contact:

jschultis@nebcommfound.org mdenner@nebcommfound.org

Sponsored by:

Diller Commun

"Watching others to see what they are doing wrong is no way to live. Instead see what they are doing that is right."

Area July Birthdays

1—Rod Arthur & Herb Wollenburg

2—Kathy Nelson, Bill Sandman, & Gladys Sandman

3—Andy Adam & Stacy Roelfs

4—Reba Hestermann, Max Knabe, & Braden Troxel

5—Tom Faxon & Brennan Schultis

6—Matt Mezger & Lori Rempel

7—Nate Day, Jean Novotny, & Gayle Rohr

8—Ross Bogart & Abby Hynek

9—Maci Ellis, Carson Kostal, Jocelyn Nippert, Turner Nippert, & Reid Pretzer

10—Becky Craig, Courtney Lottman, Wyatt Smith, & Joey Ward

11—Catie Knabe

12—Wayne Duis & Brad Sasse

13—Rye Burken & Dean Pretzer

14—Aidan McKinney & Greg Penner

15—Tristan Rosebaugh & Laney Stevens

16—Trey Breeden, Lucy Dorn, Steven Carver Kostal, Tricia Mohr, Wyatt Peitzmeier, Kashtyn Sasse, Lakeyn Sasse, & Charlotte Wendland

17—Brad Hicok

18—Jerrod Novotny, Kasen Sasse, Knox Sasse, Addison Schnuelle, Elijah Vitosh, & Delmar Wiemers

19—Diana Blair, JoAnn Scheele, Makenna Shelly, & Cathy Zarybnicky

20—Oliver Ideus, Susan Meyer, Lila Penner, & Earl Spitsnogle

21—Jesse Gilman-McCown, Angie McMurray, & George Rempel

22—Sharon Arthur & Michele Stanosheck

223—Paxton Mohr, Holli Pretzer, Dean Roelfs, & Valerie Speth

24—ReJeanna Sasse

26—Ann Engelman, Christina Goering, & Travis Reiman

27—Marcia Duerksen, Teresa Faxon, Cash Murphy, & Tenlee Murphy

28—Darcy Hroch & Alex Koch

29—Kathy Adam

30—Beth Billesbach, Julie Schmidt, Nicole Schnuelle, Zach Schnuelle, & Tom Wendland

31—Tyler Ellis, Pat Lane, Kasey Murphy, & Wesley Sowl

Happy Birthday to Clara Stuckwisch on July 23! Love, Your Family & Friends

Happy Birthday to Braeden Humphreys on July 29! Love, Your Family & Friends



Happy Birthday Dylon Davis on July 30! We love you so much!



John Novotny and his family would like to say thank you to all who helped him when he had his accident and for all the well-wishes, prayers, cards and visits.



"You have to practice being kind, or you will default to being unkind without knowing it."

July 13-14, 2024 150th Anniversary Filley Stone Barn Saturday- Antique Tractor Show, Thrashing Demostrations, Children's Activities, Free Will Donation BBQ lunch, live music and entertainment. Saturday Night- Movie shown on barn. Sunday- Pioneer Church Service, Old Fashioned Picnic, and 19th century Cricket Game.

Raffle going all day.



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Summer Hours:

April- September Wednesday- Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm.

Summer Escape Room-Venetian Nights July 23-25, 2024

Grab a group of four friends and try to figure out five puzzles in an hour. 1920's theme- dressing up is optional. Scan the Qr code to sign up.





