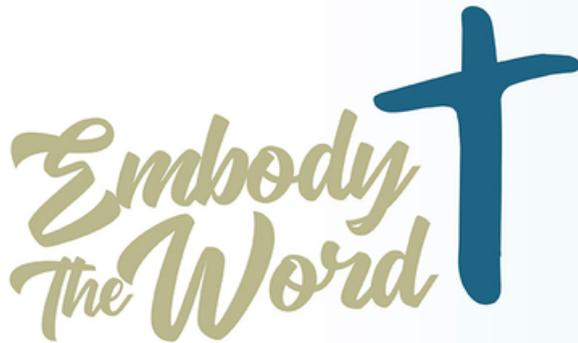


AUGUST 2022

The Communicator

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE LIVING CHRIST



2022 ELCA
CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY
August 8-12, 2022
Columbus, Ohio

I have the honor and privilege to be a voting member at the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. It will be a very full week of work on behalf of the churchwide expression, and I will be out of office 8/8-8/14. In the fall, I will present a recap of the assembly following worship, date TBD. Keep reading below for a preview of the week.

The assembly will gather under the theme, Embody the Word. There's an importance in the double meaning of the two words:

- Embody, meaning both the incarnation of Jesus Christ and the life of the church emerging from a pandemic.
- Word - both meaning Jesus Christ and scripture

Luke 24:45 states, "Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures." We embody the Word, both Jesus and the scripture, by speaking it and proclaiming it.

(cont. --->)



PASTOR MELISSA WOEPPEL
PASTORMELISSAWOEPPEL@GMAIL.COM
CELL: 402-613-8068

Website: www.lc-livingchrist.org
Office Email: lc2725@gmail.com
Office Phone: 314-839-0466

Address: 2725 Concord Dr, Florissant, MO 63033

Find us on Facebook - Lutheran Church of the Living Christ ELCA

Inside this issue:

CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY- COVER - 2
SUMMER UPDATES - 3
COUNCIL PRESIDENT/TREASURER'S
REPORT - 4
NURSE'S NOTE - 5
ANNOUNCEMENTS - 6
SYNOD NEWS - 7
NOTES OF THANKS/HABITAT - 8
CELEBRATE/COUNCIL BULLETS - 9
WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - 10
CALENDAR - 11

Weekly Gatherings

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:15am, in-person and Zoom

SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION

10:30am, in-person

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

10am, in-person
7pm, Zoom

LCLC Staff

PASTOR

REV. MELISSA WOEPPEL

SECRETARY

CYNTHIA SWAN

CHOIR

DIRECTOR/ORGANIST

DAVID EGGERS

PIANIST

GREG OTT

In 1522: Martin Luther's translation of the New Testament made the Word accessible to the people and revolutionized the Christian movement worldwide. 500 years later, the call to make Jesus accessible to the people still exists today and as we look to the future of this church.

The ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the primary decision-making body of the church, is a process of communal spiritual discernment. When the ELCA Churchwide Assembly convenes, its voting members meet with confidence in God's grace around word and water, wine and bread, to carry on their work on behalf of the entire church.

Over the course of the assembly, voting members:

- Hear reports and review the work of churchwide officers, leaders and units;
- Receive and consider proposals from synod assemblies;
- Elect officers, board members and other leaders as specified by the constitution or bylaws;
- Establish ELCA churchwide policy;
- Worship together;
- Adopt a budget; and
- Conduct other business related to the ELCA churchwide organization.

Additionally, the assembly will be held on the original and ancestral homelands of the Shawnee, Miami, and Kaskaskia peoples. When we gather for the Churchwide Assembly this August, let us remember the Indigenous peoples and tribal nations who were the first to love, pray, grow, celebrate, cry, drum, and sing upon the lands where we will be assembled.

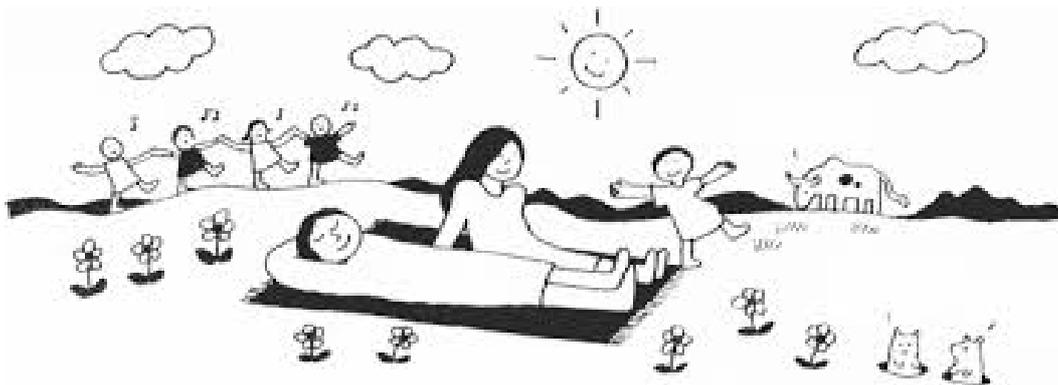
July Announcements and
Articles Due August 21

Summer Sabbath Series

August 21, 28, and September 4

In the first creation account in Genesis, God rests on the seventh day of creation. After the Exodus, God teaches the partner people what it means to live in a new way, which includes a day free from productivity and labor each week. Later on, our scripture gives a vision of a year of Jubilee, when debts will be canceled and all creation will be free for celebration and joy. Jesus' own teachings reiterate the importance of sabbath and neighbor love. Sabbath keeping honors our relationship with God and all creation.

As we prepare to head into the fall, we take a few weeks to center ourselves on the practice of sabbath, God's gift of rest and renewal for all of creation. As Dan Erlander understands it, God gives rest so humans can have extra time to enjoy friendship with God, other humans, and creation. Together we will rest, remember, and celebrate.



Office Hours:

The church office will be physically staffed Tuesday-Friday, 8:30-12:30pm. Monday will be a work from home day, and messages will be checked regularly. If you need to speak with Cynthia or Pastor Melissa, we recommend scheduling an appointment in advance.

Prayer Chain:

Beginning in June, if you have a prayer request to share, please email lclc2725@gmail.com or call the office at 314-839-0466. Rather than a phone call chain, a group email or text will be sent out to those who want to be informed. If you'd like to receive an email or text message with prayer requests, please let Cynthia know.

For emergencies, please call Pastor Melissa on her cell: 402-613-8068.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Randy Henning

First of all, I want to give you the results of our pack for FMSC on July 9. We had 431 volunteers, packed 124,416 meals, and will feed 340 children one meal a day for a year.

We fell short of our goal of 163,000 meals, but considered our pack a victory because we weren't sure we would even get over 100,000. I want to thank all of you that participated in one way or another. We actually had several folks from LCLC that worked more than one shift and even a few who worked all three shifts. Thanks again. One note of concern here though. Our leadership team was down to 11 folks. As of last week, four more have dropped off, leaving 7 people. We desperately need more folks to commit to the leadership team and play a role in helping set this event up every year. So I implore you that if you are as passionate about stopping childhood starvation on this planet of ours, please volunteer to take an active role and let me know. Pastor BJ and I started this in 2017 and I am NOT ready to see it stop. We do great things with this event, but it doesn't happen without people who are focused on it and willing to give of their time to make it happen. And help is not limited to just the 5 churches that now provide the basis for the event. We would gladly accept participation from other congregations or groups that might share our passion. Feel free to have them call me if they want to know more about it or I will go to them to spread the work.

Our focus now turns to the strategy sessions the council is working on. If you are asked to help, please do. This effort is strictly meant to keep LCLC strong for the future and keep its missions and spirit alive. That's it for now.

Look for more to come and this project continues.

Treasurer's Report

June 2022 Treasurer's Report

<u>Category</u>	<u>June Actual</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>
INCOME	\$10,847	\$76,263
EXPENSES	\$15,283	\$86,192
Congregation Coord	\$300	\$600
Cong Vitality Team	\$0	\$0
EDUCATION	\$0	\$200
MEMBER CARE	\$0	\$0
MISSIONS	\$1,000	\$7,500
OFFICE	\$311	\$1,749
OUTREACH	\$0	\$0
PASTOR FUND	\$0	\$0
PROPERTY	\$3,213	\$20,581
STEWARDSHIP	\$0	\$184
SUPPORT	\$3,623	\$13,829
WAGES	\$6,785	\$40,598
WORSHIP	\$50	\$951

Total YTD Income \$ 76,263
Total YTD Expenses \$ 86,192
Total YTD Difference - \$ 9,929

Actual income of \$76,263 for the first half of the year is \$9,929 LESS than actual expenses of \$86,192.

We have some catching up to do during the second half of the year.

2022 General Funds paid to missions are as follows:

Central States Synod \$ 2,500
Local Missions \$ 5,000

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me. Thanks.

Dave Endorf, Treasurer
dave.endorf@gmail.com
314-867-2289

NURSE NOTE by Bill Kaepfel



Medical advances in our (senior) lifetime. The good old days weren't so good in some ways...

Of course, the greatest invention in health care was SOAP. (Before soap, you used perfume so that you would smell better). But: consider how much health care has changed in the last 50-100 years...in the "good old days," folks died of heart attacks, strokes, infections for which we had no effective treatments. Here's a rundown...

1895 Xray: allowed picturing broken bones.

1924 Electroencephalogram: charts electrical activity of the brain.

1928 Iron Lung: saved the lives of polio patients.

1931 Minimal Surgery: using a scope to minimize incisions.

1943 Dialysis: treating kidney failure (used soda cans and washing machine parts).

1944 Disposable Catheter: previously reused with high infection risk.

1947 Cardiac Defibrillation: had been tried on animals; used to save a 14 yr old in surgery (2 tablespoons with wooden handles).

1952 Magnetic Resonance: MRI invented; first used on a patient in 1977.

1953 Heart-Lung Bypass: for open-heart surgery.

1958 Fetal Ultrasound: to detect fetal heartbeat and decide pink or blue.

1963 Insulin Pump: eliminates need for multiple injections daily.

1971 CT Scanner: computerized tomography (faster than MRI) pictures tissues, organs, and skeletal structure.

1982 Artificial Heart: for patients waiting for a transplant.

1987 Robots & Lasers: more exacting surgeries.

1993 Bionic Limbs: patient had a cap with sensors to control artificial arm.

2004 Adaptive Artificial Knee: controlled with a microprocessor.

2013 3D-Printed Body Parts: printing from body cells for faster burn and wound healing.

Plus: 1913 Blood transfusion; 1928 Antibiotics; 1930 Mammogram; 1941 Cervical cancer screening; 1955 Vaccines; 1957 CPR; 1980 Organ transplants; 2013 Genetic mapping.

Doctors have more resources to access information and diagnose problems (if their computer is working). My opinion: we have the best medical care in the world. Downside: limited access for many people (bankruptcies from medical bills); worst reimbursement system* (insurance and management making medical decisions); drug costs (political influence of pharmaceutical companies); limited availability in rural areas (hospitals and clinics closing). The United States of (North) America appears to be the only advanced country with no national universal health care program.

**The Parish Nurses would appreciate suggestions
for the Nurse Note.**

Bill Kaepfel & Cathie Lehr

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS August 21

As school resumes in the area, we will bless students, teachers, and staff heading back to school. Bring your bags to worship and you'll receive a reminder of God's love to carry with you each day.



Paul & Shirley Beins New Address:

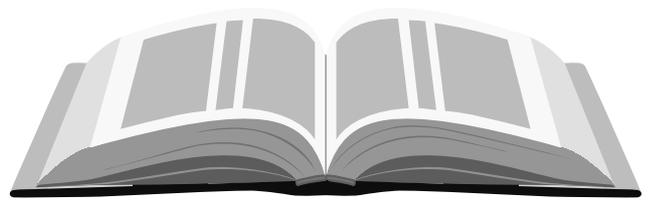
Garden Villas North
4505 Parker Rd. Room 164
Black Jack MO 63033
#314-355-9472



They are also needing assistance on rides on Tuesdays & Thursdays.

Altar Guild Help

I am in great need of altar guild people. I think it is time to get ready for when we start having unrestricted communion. If we get enough people and can have 5 teams (2 to a team), we would only have altar duty every 5 weeks. If you have been on altar guild and are remaining, please let me know that you are staying on. If you have questions and/or want to be on altar guild please talk to me. Thank you!
Maureen Buchek



Tuesday Bible Study

Through August we will continue to take a look at the ELCA Social Statements. These are teaching and policy documents meant to help communities and individuals with moral formation, discernment and thoughtful engagement with current social issues as we participate in God's work in the world. Social statements also set policy for the ELCA and guide its advocacy and work as a publicly engaged church.

www.elca.org/socialstatements

FIFTY PLUS NEWS

Mark your calendar for the next Fifty Plus Club event on September 21. A drive up the river road to enjoy lunch at Pere Marquette is the plan. Further information will be available in September.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH



The Ladies Lunch Bunch will meet Thursday, August 11, at 11:30 at Hendel's, 599 Rue St. Denis in Florissant. For reservations, contact Judy Holmes at mickey.holmes@att.net or 314-355-1125. All are welcome.

In July, 14 ladies met July 14 at Chimis Fresh Mex for delicious food and great fellowship. We have a good time! Join us in August.

News from around the community and ELCA



Central States Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Fall Conference Gathering

What does it mean to be the church today, and to keep the central things central while adjusting to new landscape of our society? The Eastern Missouri Conference Gathering for rostered ministers, SAMs, PMAs and lay members will be **Sept. 18th, 3-6pm**. Location TBD.



Tower Grove Pride

In partnership with other ELCA congregations in the Eastern Missouri Conference, Living Christ will be joining 6 other congregations to be a sign of love and support at Tower Grove Pride on **Sept. 24th and 25th**. More details TBA. If you'd like to be involved or provide financial giving, contact Pastor Melissa, Kathy Endorf, or Laurie Brown.

ELCA ADVOCACY

With election season fervor escalating, we want to ensure our election systems promote dignity and respect for all through fair elections in which each person is assured of their vote. Session details and registration links: blogs.elca.org/advocacy/advocacy-cafe.



Advocacy Cafe

LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
choose

DAY SESSION
30 min. presentation +
15 min. Q&A (1 p.m. ET)

EVENING SESSION
30 min. presentation +
25 min. small group sharing (8 p.m. ET)



July 26 - August Recess

August 30 - Civic Engagement
Actions

September 27 - Barriers
to Voting

October 25 - Public Discourse



Medicaid Expansion

As of June 2022 the number of backlogged Medicaid applications is currently 63,488. There are multiple compounding factors, and currently only 40-70 applications are processed per day. If you are eligible for these benefits, it is recommended that you apply ASAP. You apply online via the link below.

Additionally, you can

- call the toll free number 855-373-9994;
- email application to FSD.documents@DSS.mov.gov;
- mail application to: Family Support Division 615 E. 13th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106;
- or faxing the application into the DSS Family support division 573-526-9400.

<https://mydssapp.mo.gov/CitizenPortal/application.do>

THANK
YOU

thank
you

THANK
YOU!

Thank you for your recent contribution of \$500.00 in support of Criminal Justice Ministry. Through your support, CJM/Lets Start program provides essential services to justice involved individuals and their families. We minister to the incarcerated through our volunteers and staff who visit, teach classes, are Pen Pals, and arrange family visits. We are grateful for your continued support.

Thomas Casey
Executive Director, Criminal Justice Ministry

To All you who donated money so generously for Back Packs (Book Bags) for God's Helping Hand ministry. We have 25 Back Packs and 3 boxes of school supplies which were delivered on July 27.

Also to my Daughter Robin, who did all the shopping and buying, using her own gas to find and bring to church!!!

Bob Fayman

Habitat Happenings

BY BOB FAYMAN

The hot weather has caused some slow down of activity on the build sites lately. Only two are working.

The GATE = Houses 1, 2, and 3 preparing for final inspection and closing. While Houses 4 and 5 are into flooring and trim out.

LOOKAWAY = Roofing is complete and windows and exterior doors installed. Siding has begun. More beautiful pictures coming soon.

Outreach for August and September

During these 2 months the outreach program will be helping **The Saint Louis Diaper Bank**. With inflation many families are struggling just to pay for food and gas. We can help the most vulnerable by donating diapers and pull ups of all sizes for infants and toddlers. We will also be accepting cash so that we can make a cash donation and they can buy the products most needed. For questions please talk with Laurie Brown, Doris Stoechner or Kathy Endorf.

Lydia's House & Restorative Justice

We are collecting for Lydia's House & Restorative Justice.

Lydia's House is looking for towels (face and bath) They also need laundry soap. They prefer pods.

Restorative Justice has requested large three ring binders. We need to collect 15 of those.

Please see the display for both near the great room. Questions please see Gloria.

Celebrate August!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays



Shirley	BEINS	1
Kathy	ENDORF	1
James	STOEHNER	8
Rod	WALLACE	8
Nancy	KAEPPPEL	13
Dave	WILSON	18
Dave	BARNES	20
Denise	CHAPPELL	21
Bryan	CLIFFORD, JR	26

Wedding Anniversaries



William & Nancy	Kaepfel	9	65 yrs
Charles & Donna	Dasho	17	20 yrs

Baptismal Anniversaries

Bev.	Albers	3
Shirley	Beins	31
David	Ott	11
Virginia	Riedisser	21
Kathleen	Arthur	29

Council Bullets

- Masking and social distancing practices continue to be in place during worship and in the offices based on current statistics from the St. Louis County Department of Health (stlcorona.com).
- Pastor Melissa will be attending the Churchwide Assembly as a voting member on August 8-14 in Columbus, OH.
- The Mission and Purpose Statement is complete, framed, and displayed near the stairs to the basement. Check it out!
- We are exploring a technology update and are in the process of getting recommendations and suggestions, specifically to improve sound and ZOOM applications.

August Worship Assistants

August 7, 2022

Preaching/Presiding: Pastor Melissa
Assisting Minister: Randy Henning
Lector: Laurie Brown
Zoom and Slides: Gary & Laurie Brown
Musician: David Eggers
Ushers: Ann Schultz and Cora Wallace
Greeter: Judy Holmes

August 14, 2022

Preaching/Presiding: Prs. Stephanie and Phil Doeschot
Assisting Minister: Angela Bennett
Lector: Terry Calderwood
Zoom and Slides: Elizabeth Carr
Musician: Greg Ott
Ushers: Glenn and Jann Mueller
Greeter: Judy Holmes

August 21, 2022 *Blessing of the Backpacks*

Preaching/Presiding: Pastor Melissa
Assisting Minister: Elizabeth Carr
Lector: Kathy Carr
Zoom and Slides: Bryan Miles
Musician: David Eggers
Ushers: Dave Endorf & Randy Henning
Greeter: Jeanne Calderwood

August 28, 2022

Preaching/Presiding: Pastor Melissa
Assisting Minister: Randy Henning
Lector: Gary Brown
Zoom and Slides: Laurie/Gary Brown
Musician: Greg Ott
Ushers: Glen Albers and Bill Billeau
Greeter: Kathy Endorf

*****If you are unable to serve on your assigned date,
please swap with someone or find a replacement*****

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 5pm Noble Guard 1	2 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study (Zoom)	3	4	5	6 5:30pm Noble Guard 2
7 9:15am Worship In-person & Zoom	8 5pm Noble Guard 1	9 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study (Zoom)	10	11 11:30am Ladies Bunch Lunch @ Hendels (see pg. 6)	12	13 5:30pm Noble Guard 2
14 9:15am Worship in-person & Zoom	15 5pm Noble Guard 1 7pm Council	16 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study (Zoom)	17	18 6:30pm NCOTC	19	20 5:30pm Noble Guard 2
21 Blessing of the Backpacks 9:15am Worship In-person & Zoom	22 5pm Noble Guard 1	23 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study (ZOOM)	24 7pm Parc Argonne HOA Meeting	25	26	27 5:30pm Noble Guard 2
28 9:15am Worship In-person & Zoom	29 5pm Noble Guard 1	30 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study (ZOOM)	31			

Zoom links for events can be found on our website:
www.lc-livingchrist.org/calendar

