SEPTEMBER 2026

The Communicator

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE LIVING CHRIST

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

THE END

A rather strange way to begin what is probably the last article for the Communicator. In all actuality, it is the final publication of the Communicator, but it is not the end.

Yes, in a few short weeks, Lutheran Church of the Living Christ will have a new name: New Destiny Ministries, with new owners and a new season ahead.

Things as we have known them in this Lutheran congregation will change—worship time, staff, music, and more—but the message will be the same from our congregation and the new congregation: Jesus Christ is Lord of all.

Remembering the Life We Shared

I was asked to write this final article and, to be honest, it is difficult. As I think about the time I served at Living Christ, I remember baptisms, First Communion, Confirmation, weddings, and yes—funerals. I remember the potlucks, the puppet ministry, VBS, and our awesome Youth Group and their leaders, Jeff, Kathy, and Laurie.

Honoring the Mission That Continues

Ministry here has been a blessing, for I have seen the mission of Living Christ expressed through outreach, caring, supporting one another, and being challenged by the changes in our community and in our world. St. Paul says there are many gifts and talents, and all make up the body of Christ. Each of you has gifts and talents and will be a blessing to your new community of faith.

Think about the ministry that has happened between these walls. We have fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and ministered to those in distress. Through the years Living Christ has been on this site, we have laughed and even cried, seen lives changed, welcomed the stranger, and embarked on new opportunities

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In every endeavor, we have kept Christ as the center, because without Christ there is no mission and there is no ministry. The Holy Spirit has guided this congregation in many and various ways: Stephen Ministry, the parish nurse program, exercise classes, Feed My Starving Children, Lutheran World Relief, TEAM, Crisis Nursery, the Willow garden, and many more. None of these ministries and opportunities could have happened if it were not for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. You have done "God's Work with Your hands."

A new chapter is opening for all of you. Wait—look—listen. God has something in store for you: a new opportunity to use your gifts and talents.

over

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

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SUNDAY WORSHIP
9:15am, in-person/Facebook live

LCLC Staff

SECRETARY/OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
CYNTHIA SWAN

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ORGANIST
DAVID EGGERS

PIANIST
GREG OTT

OFFICE HOURS M-F
8:30AM-12:30PM

Articles **Due 21st of each month**

Looking Toward the Next Chapter

This chapter of Living Christ is closing, and we lament this, but it is not the end. Lutheran Church of the Living Christ is a brick-and-mortar building—and that is a fact—but YOU are the Body of Christ. The friendships established here will not fade away; you will take those friendships and memories with you because we are Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

I always remember Rev. Paul Beins, he often said Immanuel – God is with us, so remember this when leaving this place and starting a new chapter in a new place.

'May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord's face shine upon you and give you favor be gracious unto you and may the Lord give you peace'.

Pastor Beverly Jo Arnold
1996-2017

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dave Endorf

July 2026 Treasurer's Report

Category	July Actual	YTD Actual
INCOME	**$7,265**	**$56,260**
EXPENSES	**$6,602**	**$59,321**
Cong Vitality Team	$0	$0
MISSIONS	$478	$6,249
OFFICE	$272	$1,907
OUTREACH	$0	$0
PROPERTY	$2,430	$28,251
STEWARDSHIP	$0	$0
SUPPORT	$84	$2,148
WAGES	$3,339	$20,494
WORSHIP	$0	$272

Total YTD Income	$ 59,321
Total YTD Expenses	$ 56,260
Total YTD Difference	-$ 3,061

2026 General Funds paid to missions are as follows:

Central States Synod	$ 1,500
Local Missions	$ 3,000
Outreach Missions	$ 1,749

Our July offerings of $7,265 were slightly more than our expenses of $6,602 for the month. Our year-to-date income of $56,260 is about $3,061 less than our year-to-date expenses of $59,321.

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

Dave Endorf, Treasurer
dave.endorf@gmail.com or 502-612-3518

PRESIDENT"S REPORT

Randy Henning

I know you are all aware that the church has been sold and the contingency removed. We are progressing toward a closing date on our sale in early October. We have completed work on the HVAC system for the original building and are currently awaiting some parts to make sure the toilets in the original building are all working as they should. Laurie Brown is leading the effort to dispose of the internal items in the church that are not part of the sale either through donation or disposal. So if you have any personal items in the church, please take those with you as soon as you can. If there are other items you would like for whatever reason, talk to Laurie and she can tell you if those items are available to take. Also, if you have any sources for things like crosses, memorabilia, hymnals, etc., please let Laurie know.

All that aside. If everything goes as planned, this is the last president's report you will get. Any developments will be relayed to you at the congregational meeting on September 20. Our celebration on the 27th will give us all a chance to remember the good times at Living Christ and not the issues of the last few years. Personally, while I know the people are the value here, this building will ALWAYS bear a place in my heart. My daughters were baptized and confirmed here. I grew much closer to God here, primarily because of the great pastors we have had and the tremendous fellowship with all of you. That certainly includes Cynthia, who had to remind me pretty much every month to write this report. This month, she said, "Time again, for the last time". Like all of you, I am very saddened about leaving. What I have felt here and the joy this place has brought me, will never be forgotten or probably not experienced anywhere else I wind up. So I will take this opportunity to thank all of you for the support you have given me and all the leaders of this congregation. I would implore you to give that same support wherever you wind up. We did great work here and it is something we can all be proud of. We did it because we love God and we love what he represents. That feeling should never die. He saved us and continues to bless us. With that being said, unless something with the sale changes, I am very proud to have been of service to this congregation. Thank you!!

September Nurse's Note by Cathie Lehr MSN, RN

BRAIN HEALTH

The health care focus for the month of September is self-care. It is a time to remind us that taking care of ourselves, first and foremost, is essential. Self-care is often neglected in our everyday lives.

One important aspect of self-care involves focus on brain health.

Focusing on your brain health is one of the best things you can do to improve your concentration, memory, and mental agility; no matter what age you are. Here are a few tips to maintain good brain health:

Good nutrition helps fuel both mind and body

- People who eat a diet rich in omega-3 fatty acids, whole grains, fruits, vegetables, fish, nuts and plant-based proteins are less likely to develop dementia. .
- Maintain normal blood sugar level. Diabetes is an important risk factor for dementia.
- New research has found that older adults who drank two cups of cocoa a day for a month showed improved blood flow on brain scans and better scores on cognitive tests.

Exercise

- Research shows that using your muscles also helps your mind. Additionally, exercise also lowers blood pressure, improves cholesterol levels, promotes blood sugar balance, and reduces mental stress. All of which can help your brain as well as your heart.

Improve your blood pressure

- High blood pressure increases the risk of cognitive decline in old age. Use lifestyle modifications to keep your blood pressure as low as possible.

Improve your cholesterol

- High levels of LDL (bad) cholesterol are associated with an increased risk of dementia.

Avoid alcohol

- Excessive drinking is a major risk factor for dementia. If you choose to drink, limit yourself to two drinks a day.

Avoid tobacco in all its forms

Get Mental Stimulation

- Any mental stimulating activity helps to build up your brain.

Experiment with things that require mental dexterity as well as mental effort.

- Take courses.
- Have fun with challenging jig saw puzzles.
- Take a new route. Don't get stuck in a rut when it comes to daily tasks. Be willing to try new ways to do the same things.
- Listen to music or play a musical instrument. Cranking up some feelgood music can help boost your creative thinking and brain power.
- Get quality sleep. Your brain doesn't shut off when you go to sleep. Our brains are trying to make sense of all the activities of the day. Those who do not sleep properly will lose the benefit of the day's learning. Adults need between seven and nine hours of sleep each day. If you nap, make it short. Limit nap time to 30 minutes.
- Try your hand at a game of cards.
- Learn a new skill. Try a new hobby or craft.
- Read. Build a vocabulary. Keep a notebook when you read. Write down unfamiliar words then look up the definitions.
- Focus on relaxation. Daily meditation can calm your body, slow breathing, and reduce stress and anxiety.
- Connect with others. Building social networks has countless benefits. The more diverse your friends, the more they challenge you to think creatively by providing perspectives that help keep your mind open.
- Focus on spirituality to bring purpose and a higher sense of peace, hope, and meaning.

Greetings from Cindy Warner
(former member of Living Christ)

Oh the memories. Steve and I started attending New Life in Christ/Living Christ shortly after we got married in 1975.

All three of our kids were baptized there. Steve was the church's treasurer for several years.

Thanks to Pastor Jerry Mansholt, we ended up in Great Bend, KS. Pastor Jerry made some phone calls to his friends in Great Bend and Steve had a job.

Jeremy was three years old, Diane five, and Kevin was seven. That's 43 years ago that we moved to Great Bend.

Steve died 15 ½ years ago of a heart attack. He was still working at the same job God blessed him with (through Pastor Jerry). You just never know where God will take you – what plans are in your future. Just have to wait on the Lord.

All three of my kids are happy and have blessed me with eight grandkids – six girls and two boys. I remarried 5 ½ years ago to another Steve, so I now have seven step grands!

So wish I could come back in September. Living Christ was such an important part of our 10 years in Florissant. So dear to my heart.

May God bless the day and all who attend. I will so miss not getting to come. We'll be in South Carolina.

Love and Blessings,
Cindy Warner

Cindy's kids
Jeremy, Kevin, Diane and Cindy

A man told his wife that on a particular Friday he was going into the boss' office to request the raise that he believed he more than deserved. He was quite nervous and upset. When he finally got his courage to go into the boss' office toward the end of the day, the boss agreed that he deserved the raise and gave him even a larger increase in salary than he had anticipated. When he arrived home, he noticed the dining room table was set with the best dishes. There were candles burning. His wife was preparing a delicious meal. He thought to himself, "Someone has called her from the office to tell her." He went into the kitchen, told her the good news, they kissed, and then soon sat down at the table for a delicious meal. Beside his plate was a beautifully lettered note which read: "Congratulations, darling! I knew you'd get the raise. These things will tell you how much I love you." They enjoyed the delicious meal together. When she got up to get the dessert, he noticed a second card fell from her pocket. He bent over, picked it up, and read: "Don't worry about not getting the raise. You deserved it anyway. These things will tell you how much I love you."

Create Days for 2026

The following are dates for Create Days at Living Christ. Friday mornings at Living Christ 9-11 January through October, ending with the Lutheran World Relief Ingathering on Saturday, October 17th.

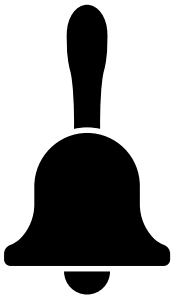
September 4
September 18

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering, 9-Noon, (place to be determined)

Any questions, please speak with Kathy Endorf (502)475-4508.

- God's Work Our Hands -

Sunday, September 13. We will worship with and at Unity Bel-Nor at 10:30 a.m., have lunch, and participate in preparing service projects (blessing bags and LWR Personal Care Kits). There will be **NO** worship at LCLC on September 13. Please sign up for LUNCH at Unity for God's Work Our Hands Sunday on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board



Bell Choir rehearsal for the Closing Service on September 5th and 26 @ 11am

Council Bullets

September activities:

- -September 13: GWOH. Worship at Unity Belnor at 10:30 am followed by lunch and service projects. There will be no worship at LCLC on September 13.
- -September 25: GRC Trivia Night at Atonement to support The Child Advocacy Center of NE Missouri.
- -September 26: FMSC Golf Tournament at Lockhaven Golf Club in Godfrey, Illinois.
- -September 27: Holy Closure/Celebration at LCLC with lunch and fellowship following.
- A Special Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 20 immediately following worship to vote on a Council recommendation to disband and discontinue ministry.

50+ SEPTEMBER PIZZA PARTY

50+ will meet on September 17 at 11:30 am at LCLC on the upper level. Pizza, dessert and drinks will be available. Sadly, this will be the final meeting for 50 Plus events. Thank you to everyone attending a program or planning a tour or event over the years. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board.

The September Lunch Bunch

We will dine on September 10 at Pirrones at 1775 Washington St. in Florissant. We will gather at 11:30 am in honor of Marjorie Becker and her faithful attendance at many luncheons over the years. Please notify Joyce Meyer at 314-374-4135 or email jameyer46@charter.net if you would like to attend.

HOLY CLOSURE/CELEBRATION AT LIVING CHRIST

SEPTEMBER 27 @ 2:00 PM
WITH LUNCH AND FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWING.

PLEASE RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 10

AUGUST LUNCH BUNCH

The August Lunch Bunch met for lunch at the Spot House Restaurant at 20 Mullanphy Lane in Florissant on August 13. They serve Vietnamese food along with large selection of American fare. We had 18 diners enjoying food and social time. Anh, our server, was busy trying to keep with us but he did an excellent job!

2026 Great Rivers Collaborative meeting dates and locations

- September 13 (Shepherd of the Hills)
- November 8 (St. Philips)

A Special Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 20 immediately following worship to vote on a Council recommendation to disband and discontinue ministry.

Celebrate September!

Birthdays

Laurie Brown	11th
Doris Stoehner	11th
Glen Albers	15th
Gloria Broderick	17th

Anniversary

Matt & Jenna Besserman 19th 17years

To my dear Living Christ Family
We wanted to thank you all for your kindness and concern for our family and me at the death of our sister Marjorie. You were all so thoughtful. I especially loved that you sang like true Lutherans at the funeral. Thank you again.

Maureen & family

September Assistants

September 6
Preaching/Presiding: PMA Jon Heerboth
Assisting Minister: Bill Kaeppel
Lector: Karen Haynes
Live Stream: Gary & Laurie Brown
Musician: Greg Ott
Ushers: Glenn Mueller
Greeter: Joyce Meyer
Altar Guild: Maureen Buchek

September 13
God's Work Our Hands *NO Worship*

September 20
Preaching/Presiding: PMA Jim Squire
Assisting Minister: Angela Bennett
Lector: Gary Brown
Live Stream: Marilyn Wiley
Musician: Greg Ott
Ushers: Ann Schultz & Glen Albers
Greeter: Levaughn & Sheila Smart
Altar Guild: Cathie Lehr & Joyce Meyer

September 27 9:15
Preaching/Presiding: Pastor Ed Breed
Assisting Minister: Randy HenningJ
Lector: Laurie Brown
Live Stream: Gary & Laurie Brown
Musician: Greg Ott
Ushers: Jim & Doris Stoehner
Greeter: Judy Holmes
Altar Guild: Ann Schultz

September 27 2:00pm
Preaching: Pastor Beverly Jo Arnold
Presiding: Pastor Gerald Mansholt
Assisting Minister: Pastor Delaney Schlake-Kruse, Randy Henning
Lectors: Jeanne Calderwood, Bill Kaeppel
Live Stream: Marilyn Wiley
Musician: Greg Ott & Pastor Ed Breed
Ushers: Glen Albers, Ann Schultz
Greeter: Kathy Endorf
Altar Guild: Maureen Buchek

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

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 9:00am Create Day	5 11am Everlasting Apostolic Bible Study 11:00am Bell Choir
6 9:15am Worship 11:am True Vine	7 Labor Day- Office Closed	8 11am Exercise Class 11am Lunch & Learn 6:30pm Wedgewood	9	10 11am Exercise Class 11:30 am Lunch Bunch 6:30pm Girl Scouts	11	12 11am Everlasting Apostolic Bible Study 10am Girl Scouts
13 *NO* Worship 10:30am God's Work Our Hands@Belnor 11am True Vine	14 6pm CVT 7pm Council	15 11am Exercise Class 11am Lunch & Learn	16	17 11am Exercise Class 50+ Pizza Party 6:30pm NCOTC	18 9:00am Create Day	19 11am Everlasting Apostolic Bible Study
20 9:15am Worship 10:30pm special congregational meeting 11am True Vine	21	22 11am Exercise Class 11am Lunch & Learn	23	24 11am Exercise Class	25	26 11am Everlasting Apostolic Bible Study 11:00am Bell Choir
27 9:15am Worship 11am True Vine 2:00pm Holy Closure	28	29	30			

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

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
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