Sept.- Oct. 2024



SPECIAL DATES

- Worship Mtg 9/1,10/6
- Evangelism Mtg 9/3,10/1
- Rally Day 9/8
- Parish Ed. Mtg-9/9, 10/7
- Youth led Service 9/29
- Executive Mtg 9/10,10/8
- Council Mtg 9/17,10/15
- Grief Share 9/12,10/10
- Teleconference- 9/11, 10/9
- Pairs & Spares Lunch- 9/12
- Bible Study 9/4,9/18,10/2,10/16
- Youth Grp 9/13,9/27,10/11,10/25
- Revival 10/12, 10/13
- Fall Festival 10/19
- Congregational Mtg 9/29
- Reformation Sunday.- 10/27
- Name Tag Sunday -. 9/1,10/6
- Staff Mtg, 9/10,9/24,10/8,10/22

| I | September 2024 | | | | | | | |
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| October 2024 | | | | | | | |
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CHRIST TODAY

A monthly newsletter for friends and members of Christ Lutheran Church, Warren NALC/LCMC

From the Pastor's Desk

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, Grace and peace to you from God our father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

The Letter to Philippians was written by Paul during his Rome imprisonment. I have read this text many times and preached on this verse for years, but it always gives me incredible hope to look at HIM by faith as my only source of power. It always refreshes my spirit, and I enjoy reading it. I just want to share this with all families of CLC and whoever gets the opportunity to read this newsletter.

The context of this verse focuses on the God-power to endure any circumstance. Verse 12 notes, "I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want." Paul had faced times of abundance, yet he also had faced many trials for his faith.

We should not forget that this verse is also the most misunderstood verse in the entire bible. There are a lot of people who used to quote this verse to cover their ungodly life. Also, the focus in Philippians 4 is what the believer can do through the strength that *Christ* gives. This is not a promise that *Christians* will have superpowers or that they will be immune to life's challenges. Instead, the promise of Philippians 4:13 is that we will have strength from the Lord to faithfully endure the difficulties that arise in life. This is for those who abide in the Word.

In the midst of his darkest days, Paul kept his eyes on Jesus. That's what got him through. Paul understood that through Christ he could do all things, even be content in a prison cell. This passage should challenge us to keep our eyes in the right place. When we get distracted and start focusing on all the problems around us, we lose sight of Jesus and forget that He's in control. But when we keep our eyes on Him we can get through whatever it is that's in front of us. This message is very relevant for us. It reminds us how we sustained through those challenging years and have gotten strength to do the mission that Christ appointed us to do. It should be our leading text as we embark on our next mission.

Finally, Philippians 4:13 is part of a larger passage that addresses Christ's ability to meet our needs. Christ can give a state of happiness and satisfaction during times of plenty and of poverty. He can help us do all things through His strength. In Paul's case, it was the strength to serve as a missionary despite facing intense suffering. In our lives, this same strength is available. Whether we serve in another country or help someone in our own community/county, Christ's power can enable us to stand firm on His promises and endure the most difficult of life's challenges. Paul concludes this passage with these words: "My God will meet all your needs according to riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (verses 19-20).

Dear friends, we have this tremendous hope in Christ Jesus which empowers us not to give up in any situation. We can do all things not by our power, knowledge, or wisdom but through Christ Jesus our victorious Lord. May the Almighty give us His grace and power to sustain until the end!

Pastor Tsegayesus H. Hunde

Memorials and Honorariums

In memory of William Bull

Gift is designated to IT Given by: Lee & Nancy O'Bryan Undesignated gift Given by: Shirley Dutcher

In memory of Violet Farris

Gift is designated to Landscaping
Given by: Lee & Nancy O'Bryan
Undesignated gift
Given by: the Family of Violet Farris

In Memory Sharon Leach

Undesignated gift Given by: Charles & Virginia Mirisciotti

In Memory Marian Materne

Gift is designated to Landscaping Given by: Nancy Woy Gift is designated to Music Given by: Betty Stutzky Gift is designated to Sunday School Given by: Shirley Dutcher

Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed from death to life. John 5:24



Update for Shoebox Ministry



This is just a friendly reminder about the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry. We now have shoeboxes available in the hallway by Pastor's office for you to take. Please be sure to read the brochure inside, it includes suggestions and instructions for filling the shoe box (what to include, as well as what not to include). It also contains a tag you can use to label your shoe box for age and gender of the child you're buying for, and an envelope to include the \$10 donation (check made out to Samaritan's Purse). The donation will cover shipping expenses, printed materials, and other projects expenses. If you choose to wrap your own shoebox, just be sure to wrap the box and lid separately, and secure it with a rubber band.

These shoeboxes will be delivered to children living in impoverished and war-torn countries all over the world. It's a wonderful way to bring joy and the message of Jesus to these precious children. We will collect these shoeboxes at the church the week of Nov.18 – 24; then we will drop them off at the local collection center in Warren.

If you would like to build a shoebox online: open your web browser and type in: https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/

You can start building one yourself, or you can select "Build it for me," then follow the prompts. The cost is \$25. If you have any questions, you can call Barb Harry at (586) 247-7231.

| CHRIST LUTHERAN | CHURCH | | | | September | 2024 | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT | | |
| Services are in-person & Live Streamed | 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY WORSHIP | | | | | | | |
| Name Tag Sunday Worship Service at 10 am 11:30 Blood pressure ck | 2 Labor Day | 3 12:30 pm Evangelism & SC mtg. | 4 11am & 7pm Bible Study | 5 | 6 | 7 | | |
| 8 Rally Day at Steffens Park Service at 11:30 am Picnic to follow . Grandparent's Day | 9:30 a.m. Prayer group 5:30 CLC Praise Band 6:00 Parish Ed 7:30 Handbells | 10 10 am Staff Meeting 10 – 1:00pm Pins & Needles 6:30 Exec. meeting | 7:00 pm Teleconference | Noon – Grief share Noon – Pairs & Spares luncheon | 13 6 – 8:00 Youth Group Pickleball & Basketball | 14 2–5:00 Euchre | | |
| Worship Service at 10:00 am 10:00 Sunday School 11:15 Coffee Hour 11:15 Catechism 11:30 Worship mtg. | 9:30 a.m. Prayer group 5:30 p.m Genesis 7:30 Handbells | 17 12 – 1:00 Food Pantry 6:30 Council Meeting | 18 11am & 7pm Bible Study | 19 | 20 | 21 | | |
| 22Worship Service at 10:00 am with Holy Communion 10:00 - Sunday School 11:15- Coffee Hour 11:15 - Catechism | 9:30am Prayer grp. 5:30 CLC Praise Band 7:30 Handbells | 24 10 am Staff Meeting | 25 | 7 pm Prayer Night | 27 6-8:00 Youth Group | 28 | | |
| Youth-led Worship Service at 10:00 am with Holy Communion Congregational Meeting after service No Coffee Hour | 9:30am Prayer grp. 7:30 Handbells | | | | | | | |

| CHRIST LUTHERAN | CHURCH | | | | Octo | ober 2024 | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT | |
| services are in-person & ive streamed | 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY WORSHIP | | | | | | |
| | | 1 12:30 pm Evangelism & SC meeting | 2 11 am & 7pm Bible Study | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Name Tag Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship service with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School 11:15 Catechism 11:15 Coffee hour 11:30 Blood Pressure Ck 11:30 Worship Meeting | 79:30a.m. Prayer group 5:30 pm Genesis 6:00 Parish Ed 7:30 Handbells | 8 10 am Staff Meeting 10am -1pm Pins & Needles 6:30 Executive Meeting | 7 pm Teleconference | 10 12:00 Grief Share | 11 6 to 8 pm Youth Group | 2-5:00 pm Euchre | |
| 13 10:00 a.m. Worship service with communion 10:00 Sunday School 11:15 Catechism 11:15 Coffee hour Revival | 9:30 a.m. Prayer group 5:30 pm CLC Praise Band 7:30 HandBells | 6:30 Council Meeting | 16 11 am & 7 pm Bible Study | 17 | 18 | 4-5:30 Fall Festival | |
| 10:00 a.m. Worship service 10:00 Sunday School 11:15 Catechism 11:15 Coffee hour | 219:30 a.m. Prayer grp. 5:30 pm Genesis 7:30 Handbells | 22 10 am Staff Meeting | 23 | 24 7 pm Prayer Night | 25 6 to 8 pm Youth group | 26 | |
| Worship Service at 10:00 am With Holy Communion Don't forget to wear red! Youth skit during service 11:15 Coffee hour 11:15 Catechism | | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

YOUNG AT HEART AGE 50 PLUS



The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

| Beverly Fehmer | 9/1 |
|------------------------|------|
| Judy Jablonski | 9/1 |
| Tim Roman | 9/1 |
| Sue Lagoe | 9/2 |
| Denise Baloga | 9/7 |
| Dick Schiesel | 9/10 |
| Evelyn Hudson-Wright | 9/14 |
| Maik Trendel | 9/15 |
| Suzanne Sopfe | 9/19 |
| Patty Zawierucha | 9/22 |
| Bob Makie | 9/23 |
| Susan Heydel | 9/24 |
| Charlene VanDeKerkhove | 9/25 |
| Mark Woy | 9/26 |

Happy Anniversary

Dick & Donna Schiesel 9/13 66 years



Send a card & share a wish with our young at heart 50+ Seniors of CLC.

| Sharon Leach | 10/2 |
|----------------------|-------|
| Dennis Bresz | 10/3 |
| Kay Trombat | 10/3 |
| Barbara Harry | 10/4 |
| Dave Parobek | 10/5 |
| Glenn Sopfe | 10/7 |
| Phyllis Arnold | 10/15 |
| Bobbye Nicholson | 10/17 |
| Annette Schmalenberg | 10/17 |
| Jeff O'Bryan | 10/19 |
| Marilyn Trevisan | 10/19 |
| John Nelson | 10/20 |
| Amy Trombat | 10/22 |
| Melissa Bruesehoff | 10/25 |
| Gail Dietz | 10/25 |
| Jim Gadd | 10/27 |

Happy Anniversary

Terry & Esther Straka 10/5 61 years
Michael & Helene Schleis 10/15 69years
Cliff & Jackie Noyes 10/18 55 years
Rex & Judy Mize 10/21 57 years

The church hive

Bees live in a cooperative way described as "eusociality," or good relations. Each bee contributes a specific skill to the colony, synchronizing its efforts for the benefit of all. Likewise, a church's health depends on all members fulfilling their responsibility to the organism as a whole. Descriptions of hive life mirror Paul's words about the body of Christ, with members having different gifts "but the same Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:4). According to R.S. Beal Jr., who was both a pastor and a zoology professor, a beehive is the perfect "living illustration of how to walk in unity." He wrote, "Those of us who have believed in Jesus belong to one another just as much as we belong to Christ. We cannot live independently of one another anymore than we can live independently of Christ. Like the bees, we must learn to practice the sacrifice, labor, sharing, and submission of love that together we 'may grow up into him in all things, which is the head even, Christ'" (Ephesians 4:15, KJV). How are you using your own spiritual gifts to build up your church "hive"?

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Jim Bruesehoff, Treasurer

<u>Jim.bruesehoff@clcwarren.org</u>

Suzanne Sopfe, Secretary
Suzanne.sopfe@clcwarren.org

Church Office Hours

Mon. – Thurs: 9am – 2:00pm

Friday - 9:00 am - noon

From the Council President

Hello fellow members in Christ! I hope you are still enjoying the summer months knowing fall is quickly arriving. With the more temperate weather we have a wonderful opportunity to socialize and get to know our church family better. We should use this as a reminder to renew our faith in Christ as He is with us through all life's changes and challenges. If you have been away, this a great time to come back to church to see all you've been missing. We are looking forward to your return. We continue with 10 am services containing blended contemporary and traditional music, in addition to services led by our youth every fifth Sunday. Communion will be changing from the 2nd & 4th Sundays to the 1st & 3rd Sundays beginning September 1st. This allows both praise bands to share their music during Communion Sundays.

Our Council Committees have been working tirelessly to provide many activities and social events within the church. Our Nominating Committee continues to accept candidates to fill open seats within our Congregational Council. For a list of open Council positions and a brief description of responsibilities, see page 8. The election of candidates will take place on <u>September 29th at our Bi-Annual Congregational meeting</u>. If interested, please contact the office or members of our <u>Nominating</u> <u>Committee</u>: Allan Mullins, Evelyn Hudson-Wright, or Betty Stutzky.

Don't miss out on the annual Rally Day Picnic, Sept. 8th. It is the kickoff to our Sunday School program that begins Sept. 15th. This year, it will be held off- site at Steffens Park on Garfield and 14 Mile Rd in Fraser. We will begin at 11:30 am with a brief church service; picnic to follow. Burgers & hotdogs will be provided by our Fellowship Committee. Please bring a dish to pass. There are picnic tables under a pavilion for seating and eating. Bring a chair if you want more comfortable seating. Volunteers will be available to help carry chairs. Don't forget to wear your red CLC shirts. If you need a ride to the picnic, contact the church office. Rally Day is also the start of our Stewardship Campaign. Your pledged offerings for the year will assist the Council when developing a budget for the next year.

Prayers continue for those in need of healing of mind, body, and spirit, as well as those suffering the loss of loved ones. Please call the office if you need prayers, pastoral counseling, or assistance with planning necessary related events. If you know of anyone searching for a church home, please encourage them to visit. We look forward to welcoming new members whenever the opportunity arises.

Please contact the church office if you are in need of a ride for church services. Also, contact the church office if you would like a Pastoral visit, to be added to the prayer list, or to receive communion.

We look forward to seeing you in church.
Yours in Christ, Cheryl Gothro, Council President

The 2024 Vacation Bible School was a fun adventure for everyone!

Thank you volunteers for all your time and the power of many prayers! It was marvelous to have the Holy Spirit at work connecting families and children at Christ Lutheran. Behind the scenes, many volunteers were diligent in preparing before the busy week! In addition to posting on social media and the electric church sign, additional large print signs were put on the front lawn. A team also created an advertisement and printed 50 copies. These were placed on door handles in the nearby neighborhood by volunteers on a very warm sunny morning.

A total of 26 children from 14 families participated in stories, music, recreation, crafts, and snacks. Some parents brought younger siblings in strollers and participated as well.

Every day, the children went home with a bag that included their craft, a story, and leftover snacks. Many loved Pickleball for recreation, along with a variety of relays. The rain on one day resulted in great indoor games as well. Thank you to the 2 brave CLC members who volunteered to be Ring Toss targets. The preschool children listened to stories about David the Hero, while the older ones helped read it out loud. They loved the classroom activities too. The music was superb. They were encouraged to practice some breathing excercises and learned the tunes quickly. There was a mini concert full of happiness for moms, dads, and grandparents with fun songs such as "Father Abraham", "Jesus Loves Me", and "Every Move I Make" to mention a few.

Every morning, children were thrilled to look for a lamb that was hidden somewhere in the building. God's little ones learned to kneel in His House on the kneelers when a prayer was being said during the closing. On the fifth <u>Sunday, September 29th</u>, the children are invited to share songs led by music director Justin Bowse. Please come, worship, welcome new families and enjoy the little voices singing to the Lord.

Thank you Melissa Bruesehoff

Pins & Needles Ministry Needs Assistance

In order to continue the Pins & Needle Ministry at CLC, which supports individuals living in nursing homes and veteran's facilities, <u>financial contributions</u> & <u>productions assistance are needed</u>. As you know, like everything else, the cost of supplies continues to rise.

We gather at church the 2nd Tuesday of each month between 10am-noon. As a rule, we just pick up blankets to sew or to tie knots. Most of the work is done at home & the blankets are returned to the church once completed. People without sewing skills can definitely lend a hand!

The cooler weather will be upon us before we know it and we will be ramping up our production of blankets for fall distribution.

Contact Carol Bokano if you can assist in any way.

Nominating Committee looking to fill 8 Council openings

There is a need for new Council members <u>starting October 1, 2024</u>. If you believe that you are able to fill one of the positions below, a description of each one is available for review. Each position requires a 2-year commitment, attendance at monthly meetings, and budget preparation for the year based on your committee. <u>Prayerfully consider being part of the support system for Christ Lutheran Church</u>.

Each one of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

(1 Peter 4:10)

Open Positions

- (1) **Recording Secretary**: Record monthly minutes and distribute them to the office, Pastor, Council members, and post in the narthex.
- (1) **Finance:** Monitor the financial health of the congregation. Oversee the CLC Foundation, the Memorial Committee, the offering counters, provide member financial statements, and record pledges for the Stewardship program.
- (2) **Worship:** Oversee and coordinate combined efforts of altar guild, ushers, music, lesson readers, worship assistants, communion servers and screen team for each worship service.
- (1) **Stewardship:** Develop and oversee annual fund-raising program through membership financial commitments.
- (1) **Property:** Assist Allan Mullins in maintaining and repairing property and equipment. Obtain bids and provide Council with recommendations to complete needed work.
- (2) **Parish Ed:** Oversee and staff the Sunday School and Catechism programs as well as Vacation Bible School and the Fall festival.

For more information or questions, please contact Allan Mullins at <u>586-634-4463</u> or allan.mullins@clcwarren.org.

IT upgrades, additions to enhance worship services

As most of you know, we have been searching for upgrades to the audio and video systems in our sanctuary and I'm happy to announce we have finally selected Abel Electronics to perform the upgrade.

The system will include new roll top workstations to house the system components and to replace the current screen computer, a new soundboard, new main speakers to enhance the listening experience, new video camera system to bring a better quality experience to our online viewers, new microphones, new TV's, and more.

While you may not see immediate work begin as the equipment is ordered, keep your eyes peeled for the exciting changes in the upcoming months.

I'd like to give a special thanks to everyone in the congregation for their generous donations and prayers that made this possible. I'd also like to recognize Glenn Sopfe for using his time, talents, and personal equipment to make the current livestreaming you see today possible. You are all very special and appreciated

Thank you

CLC IT Committee

Individuals Honored on First Responders Appreciation Day

After CLC members baked or purchased baked goods to honor individuals on the First Responders Appreciation Day, volunteers delivered "the goodies" to five area fire stations and one police station at the end of June,

The boxes were filled with brownies, cookies, danishes, donuts, and a bag of chips. We also enclosed a Thank You note in each box. Debbie Brown and Kathi Frezza assembled the boxes, while the Koschke family, Evelyn and Michael Wright, and Denise and Brittani Baloga made the deliveries.

Thank you to everyone who helped surprise the First Responders. It was greatly appreciated.

Christ Lutheran Church, NALC/ LCMC 32300 Schoenherr Rd. Warren MI 48088 586-293-0700 www.christlutheranchurchwarren.org NON-PROFIT ORG PERMIT NO.6

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September/October 2024



The Parish Ed Committee invites you to come join the fun, Saturday, Oct.19, at the CLC Fall Festival from 4-5:30 p.m.

Volunteers who plan to decorate their cars need to arrive at 3 p.m., since children dressed in costumes will begin going car-to-car to collect their candy.

Children are encouraged to wear non-scary & non-violent costumes. Likewise, CLC members dressing up & decorating their cars are asked to follow the same guidelines.

Additional plans are in the works to add to the festivities. CLC members who don't want to pass out candy can also volunteer for other activities, as well as set up, clean up or just enjoy watching the children having fun. Look for information to appear on the Blue Sheet in weeks to come.

You also can contact the church office (586-293-0700) or speak to our Youth & Family Ministry Leader, Evelyn Hudson-Wright, about the event. Her email address is evelyn.hudson-wright@clcwarren.org.