

Christ Lutheran Church, Inc., of Englewood, Florida
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CLC NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2023



Pastor Kenneth Lentz - 928-970-1313



June Newsletter

It's almost summer time and the "living is easy." Or is it? Well, certainly, our parish activities come to a slow ebb and attendance decreases due to the exodus of our seasonal members. Recently, members of the church council met at four meetings to talk about CLC's structure and to begin the process of "fine-tuning" our constitutional organization.

In three years, since February, 2020, the congregation has grown from ca. 30 members to approximately 130 members of whom about half are associate members. The funds in the bank have grown from close to \$0 three years ago to well in the black. In addition to achieving some success in getting the train back on the track, the congregation has weathered a COVID pandemic and the ravages of Hurricane Ian. The guiding principles three years ago were simply, (1) return to a visible Lutheran presence in Englewood, (2) welcome worship visitors and invite them to commit to CLC's ministry by becoming members, and (3) develop a website, newsletter, more traditional Sunday worship, up-to-date directory, and an outreach strategy for the community.

Bob Cosler recently noted at a council meeting that beginning successful businesses reach a point in about three years where more structure becomes necessary. CLC's constitution provides the structure but it seems apparent that more elements of the constitution need to be called in action. The council hopes to complete an analysis of our structure in order, by fall, to determine how many more volunteers we need to fill all the positions and how to improve communications between ministry elements.

But a spiritual process is also necessary. Someone loaned me a book by Pastor Dave Daubert who outlines a three point process for growth: (1) read the scriptures, (2) pray for guidance from the Spirit, and (3) dialog with each other. The goal is to find a "Lutheran voice." The harvest is ripe but we must work together to identify and invite our neighbors to consider CLC as a church home. We will strive to be "inclusive" and welcome all to enter our doors and discover the joys of Christian fellowship. We are now living in a culture which has taken a nose dive into social media and electronic contact. From the get-go, Christians experienced the presence of the Spirit in the gathered community. The lonely ascetic life of the hermit was never popular in the Christian community. Of course, we will want to augment our fellowship with internet and (perhaps) video-taping of our services, but Bonhoeffer's "Life Together" model is sometimes referred to as the "third sacrament." (i.e. the fellowship hour)

Our future together also includes the willingness to keep an open mind and allow God to surprise us with ministry opportunities (I heard about the Troshuk family while helping at the Kids' Needs outlet). I am excited about other "surprises" that God has in store for us. C.S. Lewis wrote about "Surprised by Joy."

Let us work and worship together and allow ourselves to be surprised by God.

Have a restorative and restful summer guided by the eye of faith.

Your fellow traveler on the way,

Pastor Ken

Music and Worship

Music and Worship did not meet in May. Our next meeting will be at 11:00 on June 7th....hopefully. During the summer months meetings are hard to schedule because of travels, so stay tuned and should there be a change of date or cancellation, I will let everyone know.

*Lois Greene,
Chair Music and Worship*

ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND

“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS”-ELCA Day of Service-SEPTEMBER 10th This year marks the 10th anniversary of “God’s work. Our hands.” celebration projects. We look forward to highlighting KIDS’ NEEDS of ENGLEWOOD. More information to follow soon.

ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND

THANK YOU for all the “Little Red Wagon” donations and for our pantry volunteers: Mary Anne and Tom D., Joyce and Bill H., Brenda and Jim S., Lois Greene and Ellen N. If you would like to volunteer, please speak with Mary Anne D. or Carol Rice.

QUILTING AND KNITTING

Please join us for a time of Christian fellowship and service...no skills necessary. We are now meeting every Wednesday, from 9-Noon, in the Fellowship Hall. All willing hands and hearts are welcome.

KIDS’ NEEDS of ENGLEWOOD

Kids’ Needs has opened its new location at Heron Plaza on S. McCall Rd. For more information, please visit their website: kidsneedsenglewood.org

THRIVENT

Are you a Thrivent member? Please remember to direct your Choice Dollars each quarter. Christ Lutheran would feel blessed to receive these gifts. Also, please consider applying for a Thrivent Action Grant (value of \$250) to support a special project for our church and/or the community. Need a project idea? The Outreach Ministry Team will help.

BOOK COLLECTION for the TROSHUK FAMILY from UKRAINE Please help the Outreach Team collect children’s books for the Troshuk Family (ages 3-17). A collection box is in the church narthex. Thank you for your help!

*Our next Outreach Ministry Team meeting is on Thursday, August 10th at 11am. All are welcome on our team. Please share your ideas for reaching out into our community with Christ’s love.

Peace and Joy! Carol Rice for the Outreach Ministry Team



Things you need to know!

If you are planning to bring baked goods to church for fellowship after

service, please text or call Angie Ziegler at 941-525-7829

Joyce Hanisits, council rep to Fellowship Ministry



Christ Lutheran Church Privacy Statement . . .

The Church Directory of Christ Lutheran Church is provided to the members for the purpose of conducting church business only. The church Directory is not for sale and use of the information; including names, telephone numbers, emails or web addresses for purposes other than church-related business is strictly prohibited.

From Pastor Linda



Our women's ministry is open to all women in order to grow together, build community , service others, and grow in Christ.

The Women's ministry here at Christ Church held a Mothers Day Brunch after service on May 14th. Thank you to all who helped with set up or brought food.

In May we also reviewed our year and our priorities. One of them was bringing women closer together, and we will continue to do this through summer contacts. We also held a community outreach with our care bundles for

Lutheran world services. We have started thinking about our next project.

We will be taking a break during the summer, and resume meeting in the fall.

Thank you .

Pastor Linda



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|----------------------|-------|
| Roseanne Froemming | 06/05 |
| Ruth Wyant | 06/06 |
| Rev. Linda Fernandez | 06/11 |
| Ron Cmiel | 06/17 |
| Gwen Nicholson | 06/22 |
| Linda Yaro | 06/26 |
| Ellen Novotny | 06/29 |

If your birthday is not listed, and you would like it to be,
please contact the office

(via e-mail at . . . office@christlutheranfleng.org) to share your special day.

**Yesterday is a beautiful reflection.
Today is a new beginning.
Tomorrow is a limitless possibility!**





& Attendance

Treasurer Report

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|--------------------|
| May 07, 2023 | 52 | \$1,866.00 |
| May 14, 2023 | 49 | \$17,948.00 |
| May 21, 2023 | 42 | \$1,113.00 |
| May 28, 2023 | <u>46</u> | <u>\$740.00</u> |
| | 189 | <u>\$21,667.00</u> |



ORGAN DONATIONS -

You are invited to make a contribution for our new organ to be installed by mid 2023. Please make checks to Christ Lutheran Church with "organ fund" in memo section.

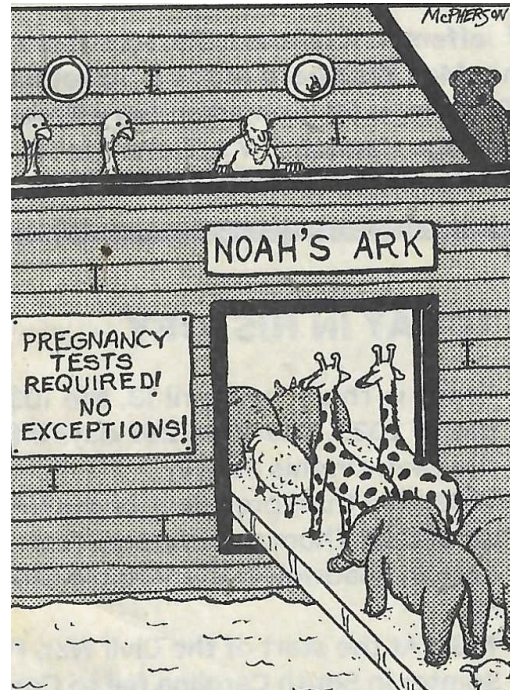
Cartoon submitted by Ellen Novotny

Please let us know how you like the new format for the newsletter.

If you enjoyed the old format with cartoons, bloopers, members page & puzzles along with everything you see in the new format please let us know that also.

It is important that our newsletter represent what our members like and want.

You can e-mail the office at:
office@christlutheranfleng.org





No activities
for Saturdays
22nd, 29th

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|----|---|
| 1 | Country Line Dancing 9-noon / Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| 2 | Tai Chi 10-11am / Bridge Club noon - 5:00pm |
| 3 | Saturday - no activities |
| 4 | Worship Service 9:30am / Bridge Club noon - 5:00pm |
| 5 | Women Circle 10am / Venetian Harmony 6:30-9:30pm |
| 6 | Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| 7 | Quilting 9-noon |
| 8 | Country Line Dancing 9-noon / Bridge Club noon-5pm / Synod Assembly |
| 9 | Tai Chi 10-11am / Bridge Club noon - 5pm / Synod Assembly |
| 10 | Synod assembly |
| 11 | Worship Service 9:30am / Bridge Club noon - 5:00pm |
| 12 | Venetian Harmony 6:30-9:30pm |
| 13 | Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| 14 | Quilting 9-noon |
| 15 | Country Line Dancing 9-noon / Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| 16 | Tai Chi 10-11am / Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| 17 | Saturday - no activities |
| 18 | Worship Service 9:30am / Bridge Club noon - 5:00pm |
| 19 | Venetian Harmony 6:30-9:30pm |
| 20 | Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| 21 | Quilting 9-noon / Council Meeting 1pm / Forks & Fellowship 5:00pm |
| 22 | Country Line Dancing 9-noon / Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| 23 | Tai Chi 10-11am / Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| 24 | Saturday - no activities |
| 25 | Worship Service 9:30am / Bridge Club noon - 5:00pm |
| 26 | Venetian Harmony 6:30-9:30pm |
| 27 | Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| 28 | Quilting 9-noon |
| 29 | Country Line Dancing 9-noon / Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| 31 | Tai Chi 10-11am / Bridge Club noon - 5pm |
| | |



The Troshuk family singers on Pentecost Sunday