

# THE DISCIPLE



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## August 2019

*Rev. Rick Hamilton, Minister*

*Carol Clifford, Editor*

### A Prayer For Our Students

Lord, thank you for the **unique gifts** of every child as they transition into a new school year. Fill each student with **fresh enthusiasm** and a heart that is excited to learn and grow. Cover them with your **enduring love**, give them **confidence and grace**, and equip them with the ability to **persevere** through trials. Bless their teachers with **wisdom, understanding, and a heart to serve**, as they embark on the journey together! **Amen!**



*“Called to be the presence of  
Christ in our community”*



It's here! The month we work all year in anticipation is here! From the supply counts to the Ladies' Tea, to the countless packs of folders, notebooks, water, cakes, and prizes; August is finally here!

I am so looking forward to the 10th annual Back to School fair and all the energy it brings to our congregation and our partners. This is the event that reminds us annually that with God, ALL THINGS are possible.

I sometimes sit back and think, "What would happen if I told each of you to go out and buy 15 fully stocked backpacks and bring them to the fair." I suspect I know the answer. Yet together, with friends, supporters and sponsors, we do just that every year. Simply amazing.

Some other things will be happening in August. The Sanctuary will look very different to you (yet again) come Sunday, as we need the tables and the Chancel space for backpacks. The summer format of worship will continue and I will resume our "Psummer in the Psalms" series.

As we try new things on, it's important to share honestly with each other. Please talk directly with me about your thoughts and feelings about worship, layout, even general things. I make mistakes. I know it. Don't be shy about saying so. I do love it when folks come to me not just with a complaint, but also a suggestion or idea.

In a workshop at General Assembly I was reminded of an old truth: "Folks that tell me that they don't want new ideas and innovation, that want to keep things the same, sure do appreciate air conditioning." Which is to say we try new things because the world around us is changing; if we do not push forward with the changing world, we risk becoming uncomfortably irrelevant to the world and those we are called to reach.

Looking forward to "pushing through" with all of you,  
Around our Lord's Table, Rick





# REFLECTIONS AND IDEAS

Today is another beautiful warm and sunny day. We continue to pray and hope for a similar day on the 10<sup>th</sup> of August for our Back-to-School Fair. We are grateful for all of the donations that have come in from our members, friends and outside sources. We will have a list posted of the many contributors to our fair so that we can thank them and support them. There are sign-up sheets available at church if you are able to help on the day of the fair. We use volunteers at our welcome table, back-pack distribution area, food area, outdoor games, raffle prizes, and other areas but can use additional help. We also supply some lunch or snack type food for our workers and cakes, cookies, and snacks to be used for the cake walk. I understand that the store purchased items work just as well as home-baked items! See Dan Johns if you have a question. And please sign up to help in some way.

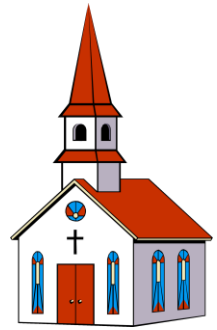
It is truly amazing how much we will benefit by volunteering our time. You will be tired after the fair, but you will feel that you were truly a part of reaching out to help those who will attend our fair and will benefit from it in many ways.

In addition to volunteering at the fair, you can begin to think about where you could continue to serve our church by bringing your ideas and enthusiasm to us. We will have a nominating committee appointed early in the fall to work to prepare a slate of new officers for the coming calendar year. If you have a special interest in some area of our church life, please come forward and talk to our minister Rick Hamilton, our Vice-Chairman Sandy Allen or myself. We love and appreciate new volunteers and new ideas. Our election will not be until our congregational meeting in late November, but thinking and planning ahead is always a good policy.

See you in church! We hope you all like the relaxed atmosphere and the early summer only start time of 9:30.

Your Chairman, Joy Claffey

# PROPERTY REPORT



## COM ED ELECTRIC BILL – CHURCH

5-22 to 6-27

\$114.75

Same period last year. \$222.47

(Fe y Esperanza stopped using our facility in Jan. 2019)

## NI-COR GAS BILL – ANNEX

5-23 to 6-27

\$ 47.23

Will not post Ni-Gas bills until the fall.

## GRATITUDE CONTINUES

On Friday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, I received a call on my cell phone while I was participating in my physical therapy session. I returned the call when I got to my car in the parking lot. One of our church members asked me if I had recently sent her an e-mail. When I told her no, she read the subject line “Help”. I told her I had probably been scammed. Numerous calls on my cell phone and land line continued for the next few days. All of those calls were from people who knew I had fallen at home several weeks earlier. I can understand why they would be concerned when they received an e-mail purportedly from me asking for Help. My e-mail password has been changed, and I am full of love and appreciation for all of you who checked up on me.



Choral-Aires presents...



*Big Sing in the Big Easy*

Sept. 8 at 3:30 pm

Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church

For tickets: [p.rotunno@comcast.net](mailto:p.rotunno@comcast.net)

\$15 (under 17 - \$10)

# Did you know...?

By: Bobbie Dean



In Pakistan, one form of Muslim marriage involves a *nikah*, a formal legal document signed by the bride and groom in front of several witnesses; this established that the couple is legally married. There are other Muslim marriage traditions as well. One includes the *mayun* or *legan* which takes place three or four days before the marriage and starts with the bride retiring to a secluded area of her home. On the day before the marriage there is a *mehndi* ceremony, when the bride's hands and feet are painted with henna. When the marriage ceremony takes place, it is required that at least two witnesses be there, and all the guests offer a short prayer for the success of the marriage. After the ceremony, dried dates are distributed to the guests. Wedding customs vary somewhat among provinces, but the Muslim marriage is seen as uniting both families as well as the couple. Each tribal group also has certain ceremonies that are an important part of the marriage within that group.



## AUGUST LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch bunch will meet following worship on Sunday,  
August 18th at:

Harvest Pancake House and Grill  
339 West 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Westmont

Please join us to celebrate time  
together. Look for the sign-up sheet in  
Fellowship Hall. See you there!



Martha and Alice

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## Current Fund Balances --by date - As of 7/31/2019

Account	7/31/2019 Balance
<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
General Fund - (Operating Budget)	405.53
Hope For The Future - Savings Fund	31,427.89
In-As-Much Fund	753.40
Ladies Annual Tea	0.00
Memorials	1,360.00
Pass Thru Funds	0.00
Property Reserve	1,366.14
SPECIAL Disciples Mission Outreach Funds	0.00
SPECIAL Music & Worship Fund	82.99
The Back To School Fair Fund	9,820.05
Youth Fund	1,330.77
<b>TOTAL Bank Accounts</b>	<b>46,546.77</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>46,546.77</b>



# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



Aug. 14	Ruth Sutter
Aug. 21	Shawn Krug
Aug. 25	Alice Dornan
Aug. 26	Mac Flores
Aug. 27	Dawn Thurman

## Budget

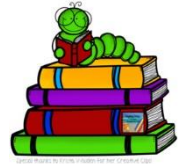
1/1/2019 through 7/31/2019 Using Budget 2019 Annual

Category	1/1/2019 Actual	- Budget	7/31/2019 Difference
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>74,625.41</b>	<b>84,952.00</b>	<b>-10,326.59</b>
100_income	74,625.41	84,952.00	-10,326.59
120-Identifiable Giving	73,595.00	77,308.00	-3,713.00
130-Loose offering	217.02	350.00	-132.98
140-Space Use Donations	100.00	6,300.00	-6,200.00
150_Fundraising	42.30	119.00	-76.70
160-Other Income	671.09	875.00	-203.91
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>74,219.88</b>	<b>84,756.00</b>	<b>10,536.12</b>
200-Ministry	1,715.98	2,289.00	573.02
210-Worship	490.98	469.00	-21.98
220-Evangelism	0.00	238.00	238.00
230-Disciples Mission Fund	1,225.00	1,225.00	0.00
250-Stewardship	0.00	119.00	119.00
260-Christian Development	0.00	238.00	238.00
300-Property	12,500.17	18,039.00	5,538.83
310-Maintenance & Repair	2,425.76	3,213.00	787.24
330-Grounds	4,750.00	6,069.00	1,319.00
340-Utilities	5,324.41	4,088.00	-1,236.41
350-Improvements	0.00	4,669.00	4,669.00
400-Office Administration	7,349.45	6,195.00	-1,154.45
410-Insurance & Bonding	4,726.00	3,388.00	-1,338.00
420- Office Expense	2,114.86	2,338.00	223.14
430-Payroll Service	508.59	469.00	-39.59
500-Personnel	52,654.28	58,233.00	5,578.72
520-Sr. Min. Housing Allowance	22,750.00	22,750.00	0.00
530-Sr. Min. Pension	3,500.00	3,500.00	0.00
540-Sr. Min. Prof. Expenses	0.00	581.00	581.00
550-Office Manager Salary	12,544.00	12,544.00	0.00
560-Pianist Salary	7,504.00	7,504.00	0.00
570-Choir Director	0.00	4,550.00	4,550.00
580-Custodian Salary	4,480.00	4,480.00	0.00
590-Staff FICA	1,876.28	2,324.00	447.72
<b>Net Difference:</b>	<b>405.53</b>	<b>196.00</b>	<b>209.53</b>



*“When you get to your wits end, you’ll find  
God is right there to offer you strength and  
guidance.”      Anonymous*

# SERVING SCHEDULE



## ELDERS Bread /Cup

Aug. 4	Bob Reese	Becky Daigle
Aug. 11	Joy Claffey	Sue Huizinga
Aug. 18	Daphne Hayes	Barb Bates
Aug. 25	Martha Anderson	Karen Johns

## DEACONS Prep and Serve Serve

Aug. 7	Mac Flores	Jeff Igel
Aug. 11	Galilee Flores	Don Peterson, Dan Johns, Ron Smith
Aug. 18	Jim Claffey	Suellen Cook, Mac Flores, Sandy Allen
Aug. 25	Marve Huizinga	Gail Reese, Jeff Igel, Galilee Flores

## POWER POINT

Aug. 4	Joy Claffey
Aug. 11	Marve Huizinga
Aug. 18	Don Peterson
Aug. 25	Dan Johns

## NURSERY ATTENDANTS

July 7	
July 14	
July 21	
July 28	

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

The month of June	There is no Sunday School during the summer month. Children will participating in our regular worship service.
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## COUNTERS

Aug. 4	Bobbie Dean and Marve Huizinga
Aug. 11	Karen Connery and Sandy Allen
Aug. 18	Dick Anderson and Sandy Allen
Aug. 25	Martha Anderson and Barb Bates