

The Crusader

Christ Lutheran Church
315 N Shipley Street
Seaford, DE 19973
Rev. Ray M. Rogers
Seaford, DE 19973 Phone: 302-629-9755
8:30 am Praise Worship
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Traditional Worship



AUGUST 2024

Pastor's Portion

“How Can We Weather the Storm?”

On the night of December 11, 2021, a supercell EF4 tornado at least a mile wide remained on the ground for 200 miles, cutting a swath of almost total destruction through Missouri, Kentucky, and Illinois. As the tornado, packing winds from 207 to 260 mph, was barreling down on Bremen, Kentucky, Jordan Blaze huddled with his two children in the basement of their home.

When the storm had passed, the three emerged badly shaken from the basement, only to find that the entire roof of their home had been carried away by the funnel cloud. Various interior walls were missing. Jordan could only guess how many of the family's possessions, including their Christmas decorations and presents, had been snatched away.

But sitting completely intact in the middle of the Blaze's living room was their baby grand piano. To make the picture even more astounding, the family's pet chicken was walking across the top of the piano.

A song had been going through Jordan's mind the last couple of days. It was the Gaither song with which most of us are familiar: “There's Something about That Name.” As Jordan sat down to play the melody, unbeknownst to him, his sister was recording what he intended to be an entirely private moment of meditation.

If you don't recall the lyrics of the song, here are some of them:

*Jesus Jesus Jesus
There's something about that name
Master Savior Jesus
It's like the fragrance after rain*

*Jesus Jesus Jesus
Let Heaven and Earth proclaim
Kings and kingdoms will all pass away
There is something about that name*

*We Love the name
The holy name
Your precious name*

The video of Jordan playing went viral on social media. From the response, the video must have spoken to the hearts of many people.

You don't have to have gone through a tornado and lost family members and possessions to know that life has many "storms" that all of us must weather. We don't know what form the various "storms" of 2024 may take. It could be a dreaded diagnosis from the doctor, the loss of a job, the breakdown of a relationship, a car accident, or any of a thousand possible reversals. I don't mean to sound pessimistic, but this is the reality of life in a fallen world.

It seems that whenever God wants to make a particular point in my life, He'll have a particular verse of Scripture appear again and again. In the celebration of life for Walt Moyer, the family chose a portion of Isaiah 40: for one of the Scriptures. Those verses popped up again this morning in the devotion my wife Linda and I were reading in *Our Daily Bread*. These verses were also the text for the first sermon I ever preached at Concordia College, Ann Arbor, and they read as follows:

"Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint"(vv. 30-31).

When we are worn out by life and can go no further under our own power, we can count on Jesus' abiding presence and the fullness of His strength being manifested in our weakness. He will enable us to soar like eagles and gain a new perspective on life, seeing ourselves and the course of our lives more as God sees things. Remembering our Baptism, we are raised daily with Jesus to walk in newness of life (Rom. 6:4). With Jesus and His Spirit in us, we will not grow weary in well-doing (Gal.6:9-10).).

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Ray

August Newsletter
Food Shelf Ministry Report

Hebrews 13:2 "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

Partnering with Love In the Name of Christ, we were able to help our neighbors with electric bill assistance. During these brutal heat waves we've been experiencing, there is an increased need for bottled water and sunscreen. Through your continued sharing of God's blessings, we provided 4 cases of water and 12 cans of sunscreen, in addition to 154 non-perishable food items.

Our donation of luncheon meats, cheese and bread provides our neighbors with access to quick nutrition through Love INC's "Grab and Go" lunch ministry.

Blessings,
Food Shelf Team
Linda Boone
Carl Boone
Janet Moore

August BSSP News Article

Vacation Bible School is the week of August 5th – 9th, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Each evening begins with a light meal. This is followed by an opening with music, Bible story, craft, and music/closing. This year's theme is "Scuba – Diving into friendship with God". We look forward to seeing you for and a very fun-filled week.

Saturday BSSP classes resume on September 7th at 10 a.m.

Leona Tull and Donna Hassman
Co-coordinators



Christ Lutheran LWML News

Worship Anew -Did you get a chance to read the LWML Mission Highlight for August? Please read about Worship Anew. Our National LWML is funding a grant for this service organization associated with the Lutheran church. Worship Anew's mission is to engage and equip aging adults to live a full and abundant life in Jesus Christ. They offer daily devotions to read or listen to, weekly messages to watch, podcasts about our Christian faith, and printed resources through their Broadcaster magazine. Each month's Broadcaster magazine focuses on a topic of our Christian life. July's focus was Passing on the Faith. Worship Anew's vast library of resources has a wealth of information categorized by topics: Faith, Prayer, Family, Healthy Living, Mental Health, and more. Discover more about Worship Anew online at www.worshipanew.org.

August LWML Meeting – August 15 @ 2pm. Please join us for our annual brainstorming and planning session. Just as Back-to-School arrives and new things start, so does our LWML at Christ Lutheran. Have ideas? Come and share them. Help plan our year with mission projects, fellowship activities, Bible studies, and more. Please join us for fellowship and refreshments on August 15. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Chesapeake District LWML District Convention – September 20-22, 2024 @ Hyatt Regency, Herndon, VA. Are you interested in attending our LWML biannual District Convention? Our theme will be We are the clay and you are the potter. Isaiah 64:8. LWML women from across Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware will be joining together to worship Jesus and celebrate together in activities, planning, and fellowship. Our new Chesapeake District 2024-2026 Mite projects will be selected this weekend, too.

If you have questions or are interested in learning more about our LWML, please contact our LWML President, Kathryn Lamberton @ 302-841-9622, or Treasurer, Jean Lohmeyer @ 302-569-4194.

August LWML Mission Highlight

Every month, mission grants receiving support at the LWML National and District level through our Mite Boxes are highlighted in our newsletter. Each of these projects has been selected by local LWML societies and voted for by their delegates to our district and national LWML conventions every 2 years. Additional information, videos, and pictures of each grant are available online at www.lwml.org/mission-grants and www.lwmlchesapeake.org/district-grants-2022-24.

LWML National Grant #17

NURTURE FAITH IN THE AGING WITH BIBLICAL RESOURCES - LUTHERAN MINISTRIES MEDIA — WORSHIP ANEW | \$100,000 Biblical Resources Strengthen the Faith of Aging Adults

Worship Anew, a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), develops and distributes biblical, Christ-centered resources to thousands of people across the United States. Studies have shown that church attendance of people born before 1946 has declined 14% over the last twenty years. That means an increased number of former churchgoers are at home, in care facilities, or health care centers throughout the country. Worship Anew is positioned to address this by providing resources that are easy to share and place the Gospel into the hands of those who so desperately need it. Online, Worship Anew reaches thousands of people with its 30-minute weekly worship broadcast. Also, Worship Anew sponsors the publication of a daily devotion booklet, Hope-Full Living, written by seniors and for seniors. Worship Anew also publishes the Broadcaster, a magazine that is free of cost and available by mail or online.

With this grant, Worship Anew will expand the Broadcaster to a monthly magazine which will include feature articles addressing the physical, mental, and spiritual needs of aging adults, a monthly Bible study, activity pages and Bible stories to help in sharing their faith with children and grandchildren. The magazine will also include articles that address the current culture and offer a Christian perspective and response, and opportunities for readers to share their faith with others through their artwork and testimonials.

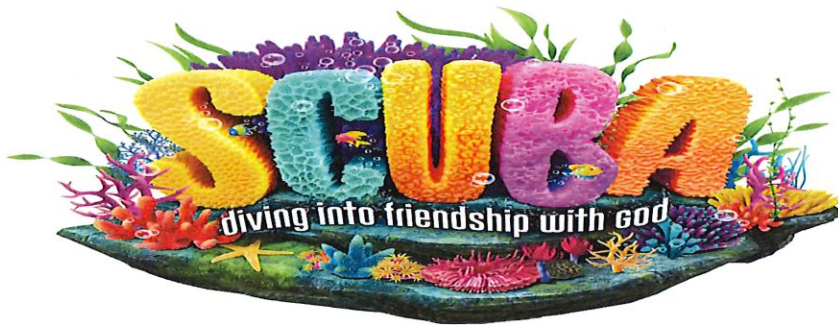
Chesapeake District LWML Grants

All our Chesapeake District LWML Grants have been funded for the 2022-2024 Biennium. New mission grants for the 2024-2026 Biennium will be selected next month at our Chesapeake District LWML Convention in Herndon, VA, September 20-22

July Mite Box Collection: \$515.50

Thank you so much for your faithful contributions on Mite Box Sunday every month. Together we are helping to spread the Gospel message of Jesus here and throughout the world.

**Vacation Bible School is
Coming!**
Monday, July 29th - Friday,
August 2nd
5:30-8:00 pm



Upcoming Events:

- Friends Supporting Friends—Mondays at 11 am
- August 4th and August 18th Holy Communion at both services
- August 13@7 pm Call Committee
- August 15@2 pm LWML Meeting

Fellowship

As we are beginning the process to reach out to pastors who we hope will consider a “call” to serve our wonderful church and amazing congregation, this is a good time to do some self-searching to determine who we are and who we want to be. We are a friendly church. This is what pulled Bonnie and me to Christ Lutheran. We are a giving church. While I do not, at this time, know how the congregation will respond to supporting this year’s Vacation Bible School, I know that we received so many donations last year that over \$100 was added to the offering after all bills were paid.

Is that enough? The position of Fellowship remains open on Church Council, a critical role of a growing, active congregation. We have so many volunteers willing to serve, but, at this time, no one willing to lead. I’m not asking for a cook! We need someone to coordinate our volunteers, including our cooks.

As pastors begin to prayerfully consider serving as our Shepherd, the absence of someone willing to lead Fellowship cannot be a positive aspect of our church’s profile. Please prayerfully consider this important ministry. We need you!

In Christ,
Dave Rose

Happy Birthday Anniversary

August Birthdays

04 Martha Ann Schmick
 05 Ginny Hoffman
 10 Carol Byrd
 11 Maureen Stanton
 11 Fred Tidwell
 17 Donna Hassman
 17 Rich Flury
 18 Carol Miller
 20 Lois Kopp
 21 Kelcey Stanton
 22 Joel Lichtenberg
 22 Noreen Marten
 22 Patricia French
 24 Grace Schmick
 25 Madeline Dunn
 28 Kris Pianka
 28 Toby French
 30 Justis Morris
 31 Art Payne

August Anniversaries

02 Carol & Ron Byrd
 08 Katie & Eric Hiller
 10 Dave & Bonnie Rose
 14 Melissa & Jim Cooper
 15 Rev. William & Vall Klettke
 15 Ruth & Ray Williams
 24 Pat & Henry Tift
 25 Steve & Ginny Hoffman
 29 Lynn & Rich Flury



August 4
 August 11
 August 18
 August 25

Betty Wilks
 Ray & Ruth Williams
 Dave & Bonnie Rose
 Pastor & Valla Klettke



“Love one another even as I have loved you.” (John 15:12)

We are blessed to be attached to a church that reaches out with love and kindness. The VBS program is one example of this love. Other examples are praying for each other, providing meals, or giving words of encouragement. After researching ideas for sharing Christ’s love, I found that the #1 way was to share a smile. Here are a few more ideas!

- Steer conversations away from negativity and encourage a more positive topic.
- Pray for a different person every night – including family, friends, and acquaintances.
- Try to befriend someone who you know has few friends.
- Start every morning with a prayer asking God to bring someone into your life whom you can impact that day.
- Write a letter or send a card, telling someone how much you appreciate something that they did for you – either recently or many years ago.
- Deliberately and honestly compliment your family members every single day.
- When someone *you know* is going through something challenging, take time to listen. You can also tell them that you are praying for them and ask if they would like to pray right then and there.

As we continue to love and serve others unconditionally, God will undoubtedly bless us with great opportunities, new friends, and a slightly happier world. If you need help with experiencing Christ’s love, consider asking for a Stephen Minister. Just call:

Aileen Watkins 302-930-7070, Kathryn Lamberton 302-841-9622 or Pastor Rogers at 443-523-8579.

Call Committee

During the July Call Committee meeting members drafted responses to Sections 2 and 3 of the Congregational Profile. **Section 2** requested information about a myriad of topics including congregational statistics, community demographics reflecting information provided by the Southeastern District LCMS as well as supplemental information prepared by Call Committee members, a general description denoting how the congregation reflects Seaford's general population, as well as statistical information denoting percentages of the membership's place of residency. **Section 3** required answers to a variety financial questions about current and YTD budget reports, pastoral salary compensation with comparisons to LCMS' Concordia Services, Concordia Benefit Plans, and stewardship activities. Call Committee members will participate in an August meeting in order to complete the fourth section of the Congregational Profile. Prayers for Call Committee members, entrusted with the responsibility to answer questions on behalf of the congregation, are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,
Madeline E. Dunn, Chair

.Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

There are not enough words to say thank you for all that you have done for us these past few years. Your love and support have been overwhelming especially this past month. I want to thank you all for the many cards, texts, calls, and visits. Also, thank you to those that provided meals, gift cards, or money to help with meals while family was in town. Thank you to Cathy Young, Leona Tull, and the fellowship team for the delicious dessert reception after David's Celebration of Life Service. He would have loved it!

Please continue to pray for us as we navigate life, with the Lord's help, without David..

Blessings,
Michelle and Family
Blessings,
Michelle & Family



August 2024

August 2024							◀ Jul 2024	Sep 2024 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
					2 Office Closed	3		
4 8:30 am Praise Service w/Communion 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service w/Communion	5 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	6	7	8	9 Office Closed	10		
11 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11 am Traditional Service Food Shelf Sunday	12 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	13 7 pm Call Committee	14	15 2 pm LVMML Meeting	16 Office Closed	17		
18 8:30 am Praise Service w/Communion 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service w/Communion Mile Box Sunday	19 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	20	21	22	23 Office Closed	24		
25 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11 am Traditional Service	26 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	27	28	29	30 Office Closed	31		