

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 2025



From the Pastor: What We Do...Because He First Loved Us

My day seems incomplete if I don't make the time to have a morning devotion, reading from the devotions produced by an organization called Our Daily Bread. The devotion for July 17, entitled "Loving Jesus Most," really hit home with me. It's very brief, and I wanted to share it with you in its entirety.

The members asked why their church was buying a steeple. Was this the best use of God's resources? What about feeding the poor? The pastor replied that the funds came from donors and needed to be spent as they wished. "Besides," he quoted Jesus, "you will always have the poor among you" (John 12:8). The pastor quickly apologized for his flippant, out-of-context remark, which led me to wonder, What was Jesus' context? Six days before His death, a woman anointed Jesus' feet with expensive perfume. The disciples were disgusted. Why wasn't this perfume sold to help the poor? Jesus replied by quoting Deuteronomy 15:11: "You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me" (John 12:8).

Jesus often cited Deuteronomy, so He knew what was written a few sentences earlier: "There need be no poor people among you, for in the land the Lord your God is giving you . . . , he will richly bless you, if only you fully obey the Lord your God" (Deuteronomy 15:4-5). Perhaps this was another reason for Jesus' rebuke. Poor people existed only because Israel hadn't obeyed God's instructions. Now the poor were being used to distract from Jesus—the true Israelite who would fully obey to the end.

We need not choose between Jesus and the poor. We love people best by loving Him most, and loving Him most inspires us to love others best.

Reflect & Pray: How do you help those less fortunate? How does the life of Jesus and the things He taught inspire you to share with those in need?

Now let me add just a couple of comments:

I thank God daily that this congregation, as long as I've been a member, has not fixated on facilities alone (the "steeple" part of ministry) but has shown a concern for the poor, as evidenced by your support for Love In the Name of Christ and Redemption City.

Pastor's Portion Continued

Only by the grace of God have we avoided the other extreme of thinking our help for the poor ends when we've provided them with what the Lord's Prayer calls "daily bread," things such as clothing, food, and shelter. We know that Jesus ward off the temptation of the devil to turn stones into bread and thus gain a large following. Jesus did so by quoting Deuteronomy: "Man does not live by bread alone," but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Only as we're serving up a generous portion of Jesus, the Bread of Life, will anyone we touch be saved from sin to eternal life.

Our Vacation Bible School, beginning July 28 and running through August 1st, gives us a chance to put love for Jesus and love for people, rich and poor, into action. I praise God for all of you who have volunteered to help with everything from snacks to teaching to administration.

One new way we have opportunity to help someone in need and spread the Gospel is by getting involved in Concordia Seminary's Adopt-A-Student program. You can sponsor me on my 65 mile ride through Pocomoke State Forest on August 23rd. One Hundred percent of the money raised will go directly to a first-year student preparing for the Holy Ministry, and we will correspond with this student and lend further prayer and financial support throughout the year.

If you're not feeling especially loved today—and we all have those days—your homework is to read two short passages: Deuteronomy 7:6-8 and 1 John 4:10-16.

Love in Christ,
Pastor Ray

August 2025 BSSP News Article

Vacation Bible School

August 4th – 8th. 6:00-8:00 p.m.

“True North – Trusting Jesus in a Wild World”

Saturday BSSP classes resume on September 6th at 10 a.m.

Leona Tull and Donna Hassman
Co-coordinators



Save The Date!

We will be needing teachers and volunteers!

Christ Lutheran Church will once again hold its Vacation Bible School for elementary school aged children this summer. Our dates are Monday, July 28th through Friday, August 1st. 5:30-8:00 pm.

Galatians 5:14 **"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."**

In July we were able to assist our neighbors with electric bills. We continued our support of the Grab and Go lunch ministry with luncheon meats and peanut butter and jelly and also provided individual packets of mayonnaise and mustard to go with the sandwiches. We also donated 105 non perishable food items. An additional donation of 10 toothbrushes, one pair of sweatpants, one pair of shoes.

Current high priority items include: travel-size hand sanitizers, fruit cups, granola bars, shelf stable microwave meals, and cereal.

Love INC has a number of volunteer opportunities available including sandwich preparation, bagging chicken for distribution, clothing closet assistance. Contact Love INC directly if interested.

Every donation you make is significant and blesses someone. Thank you for your continued generosity, support and prayerful consideration to help meet the increased needs of our community.

Blessings,
Food Shelf Team
Linda Boone
Carl Boone
Janet Moore



Altar Flowers

August 3
August 10
August 17
August 24
August 31

Ron Coleman
Bonnie & Dave Rose
Pastor Bill & Val Klettke
Teresa Lineweaver
Bonnie & Dave Rose

Evangelism Report for August Newsletter

The Evangelism Committee has been placing newspaper ads in the Star. These ads are reaching the towns of Seaford, Laurel and Georgetown. They are aimed at sparking interest for people that either don't know we are here or that are looking for a church family to belong to. These ads will run through the end of September. So, if you see new folks coming to worship with us, do what we do best and greet them with welcome arms!

New name plates have been placed above the doorways of Luther Hall and Fellowship Hall. A Bible verse will be added to the top of the doors very soon. They will match the ones that are already on the walls leading into the sanctuary. We are working on finding members that have not been present at services for one reason or another for a while. We would like to invite them to attend our 70th Anniversary Celebration on Sept 21st, 2025. A flyer is being worked on as well for a handout or mailing to those we find. This event will also be included in our Newspaper ads.

Brighter lighting/light bulbs was suggested to make it brighter and easier for folks to follow along using the hymnals for the liturgical services. We are also looking into purchasing new candelabras, one for each side of the alter.

Have a great August and may God bless every one of us!!

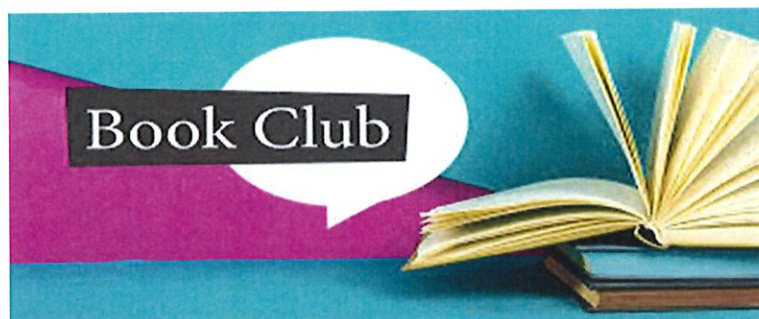
Your Evangelism Committee

Church Choir

The Choir of Christ Lutheran Church meets Thursdays at 7 PM in Luther Hall, starting on Thursday, August 21st.

We will be working on music through Christmas, especially the upcoming Anniversary Service. Anyone who likes to sing in an organized group is welcome.

Roy Lamberton



Our Book Club meeting for August is Tuesday, August 12, at 1:00 pm. *Counting Miracles*, a novel by Nicholas Sparks, is our selection for August.

Counting Miracles tells the story of Tanner Hughes, a former Army Ranger, who travels to Asheboro, North Carolina, after his grandmother's death to find his biological father. There, he meets Kaitlyn Cooper, a doctor and single mother, and they form an unexpected connection. Meanwhile, Jasper, a reclusive neighbor, grapples with past tragedy and connects with Kaitlyn's son through whittling. The novel explores themes of identity, love, family, and healing as these characters' lives intersect.

Join us for engaging discussions about each of the books we read. September's book is *Ordinary Grace*, by William Kent Krueger. Please call Jean Lohmeyer @ 302-569-4194, if you have questions. Come join us in August. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Pick up your copy of *Counting Miracles*, at your local library, bookstore, online retailer, or through Amazon, and join us on Tuesday, August 12 @ 1:00 pm for Book Club.

Upcoming Events

Friends Supporting Friends held on Monday at 11 am
 Women's Bible Study Tuesday@11 am
 August 3rd and August 17th-Holy Communion at both services
 August 9th@6:30 pm-Bunco
 August 12th@1 pm Book Club
 August 19th@2 pm Lay Ministry Meeting
 August 21st@2 pm LWML Planning Meeting

Happy Birthday



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|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 05 Ginny Hoffman | 02 Carol & Ron Byrd |
| 10 Carol Byrd | 08 Katie & Eric Hiller |
| 11 Maureen Stanton | 10 Dave & Bonnie Rose |
| 11 Fred Tidwell | 14 Melissa & Jim Cooper |
| 17 Donna Hassman | 15 Rev. William & Val Klettke |
| 17 Rich Flury | 24 Pat & Henry Tift |
| 18 Carol Miller | 25 Steve & Ginny Hoffman |
| 20 Lois Kopp | 29 Lynn & Rich Flury |
| 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 LWML News

2025-2027 LWML National Mission Grants Announced at National Convention

In Omaha, Nebraska, during our National LWML Convention, June 26-29, our 2025-2027 National Mission Grants were announced. Voting had taken place in May through computer by delegates from each LWML zone across our synod. Christ Lutheran is part of the DelMarVa LWML Zone covering the DelMarVa peninsula in the Chesapeake LWML District consisting of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC. Five members from our zone attended the national convention. A 2.6 million dollar goal was approved by delegates and 33 mission grants were selected. These are the first 2 projects to be funded through the mites we collect through our mite boxes to share the message of Jesus to the world.

1. Regional Disaster Response LERT (Lutheran Emergency Response Team) Shower Trailers - LCMS Office of National Mission, Disaster Response Ministry, U.S. - \$81,500. Shower trailers will be brought to every location LERT serves in disaster response providing much needed facilities for the communities being served.

2. Help for Ukraine's Orphans and Displaced Persons - Orphan Grain Train, Europe - \$100,000. Orphan Grain Train has locations across the United States serving communities in our country and around the world. This grant will pay shipping for all the containers ready to be shipped throughout the US with food, clothing, and medical supplies for the people of Ukraine.

August LWML Beginning-of-the-Year Planning Meeting – August 21@ 2 pm.

Calling all women of Christ Lutheran Church. It's time to get our LWML year started again. Just as Back-to-School arrives and new things start, so does our LWML year at Christ Lutheran. Please join us for our annual brainstorming and planning session. 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 21 at 2 pm. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Chesapeake District LWML District Christian Life Retreat – September 19-21, 2024 @ Double Tree by Hilton, Williamsburg, VA.

Are you interested in attending our District LWML Christian Life Retreat? The theme is God's Grace in the Wilderness and will be led by speaker and author Lindsay Hausch. LWML women from across Virginia, Maryland, Washington, DC, and Delaware will be joining together to worship Jesus, learn more about his word, and celebrate together in activities and fellowship. The Christian Life Retreat is always a faith building enriching experience. Get a Christian Life Retreat registration package at the information desk. Reservations are needed by August 27. Please join this wonderful faith building retreat with our district LWML.

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.



Stephen Ministry Minute

The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:5b-7).

In the summer months we often feel a sense of freedom. On July 4th we celebrated the freedoms we find in America. Those freedoms are certainly worth celebrating, but even more important, we can celebrate the Freedom in Christ that Christians are assured of in scripture.

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free" (Galatians 5:1).

As believing Christians we can feel a deeper level of freedom. We are free from the punishment of sin because Christ died for our sins. We are also freed from death and destruction because we will be with Christ.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear. (1 John 4:18).

God gave us the gift of salvation, forgiveness of sins, and eternal life through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus. Even though we know Jesus has conquered sin, death, and the devil, there are still many things on this earth that cause us to be afraid. Maybe you need help in handling those fears. We pray that you can hand over your fears and concerns to God, so that His peace may wash over you.

If you want support, please contact us. Aileen Watkins: 302-930-7070, Kathryn Lamberton: 302-841-9622, Pastor Rogers: 443-523-8579 or Call Christ Lutheran at 302-629-9755.



eNEWS

33 *New mission grants!*

Learn More



33 New Mission Grants! And Many Other Big Numbers

Following another successful convention, we are pleased to announce that \$2,622,270 has been approved to fund 33 Mission Grants for the upcoming biennium. Thank you all for your continuous giving that continues to spread His love and His word across the world.

Other fun statistics include 272 singers in the choir, 806 attendees at the Wake Up In The Word Bible Study, 2,439 attendees using Whova, approximately 73,680 hugs given, and 10/10s for everyone brave enough to sing karaoke.

Mission Grant List



August 2025

August 2025							◀ Jul 2025	Sep 2025 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
					1 Office Closed	2		
3 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	4 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	5 11 am Women's Midweek Bible Study	6	7	8 Office Closed	9 6:30 pm Bunco		
10 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service Food Shelf Sunday Stephen Ministers Meeting	11 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	12 11:00 am Women's Midweek Bible Study 1 pm Book Club	13	14	15 Office Closed	16		
17 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 Mite Box Sunday	18 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	19 11:00 am Women's Midweek Bible Study 2 pm Lay Ministry Meeting	20	21 2 pm LWML Planning Meeting 7 pm Choir Practice	22 Office Closed	23		
24 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service	25 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	26 11 am Women's Midweek Bible Study	27	28 7 pm Choir Practice	29 Office Closed	30		
31 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service								