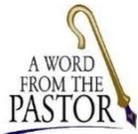


# The Watchman

## JULY

### 2022



Given the recent Supreme Court decision concerning Roe v. Wade and abortion, I wanted to offer a brief thought about the issue from the Church's perspective. Of course, we should commend civil authorities when they fulfill the responsibility of their authority in earthly terms. But the issue is really not that relevant within the Church; that is, whatever any government says about abortion being legal or illegal, the Christian position does not change that it is sinful. However, I also hope we do not view the issue as another point on which to score a partisan victory; being pro-life, as the Church most certainly should be, includes opposing abortion but is also about much more than that. We also ought to consider *why* most women who consider an abortion would take that destructive step, and minister to them too.

I can't say it's true in every case, but stories and data both indicate that in most cases, it boils down to fear. Fear that they can't handle the financial, physical, or emotional demands that having a child inevitably puts on parents, or fear for losing other relationships, family members or significant others or so forth who would

throw her out because of the pregnancy. There are other fears that could be added, no doubt. The Church is called at all times to be especially concerned about and generous towards the most vulnerable among us: that certainly includes unborn babies, but it also includes the mothers whose circumstances makes them inclined or pressured to consider abortion as an option. It's a cruel twist that this issue pits these two vulnerable groups against each other, and I hope that in our enthusiasm to protect one, we don't harm the other.

For us as Christians, abortion isn't a question of law; as I said, it's a sin whether it's legal or not. It's more a question of what kind of people we are meant to be as the Church. And that is, as Jesus puts it in Matthew 25, the kind of people who are always caring for "the least of these," who are concerned not about civil rights but about Christian duties, who understand that the family of God we enter by baptism is more important than our earthly one. In that, we are all called to be parents whether we have biological children or not: in the rite of baptism, the whole congregation is called along with the parents and sponsors to make promises concerning the child being

brought into the Christian family. We are called to come together to care for both a vulnerable woman and a vulnerable child.

Most importantly, we have to remember that we are defined by grace and by the Gospel, not by obedience to the Law. Abortion is not an unforgiveable sin. Exact statistics are hard to find, but many suggest that as high as 40% of American women have had an abortion at one point. Certainly, some of them are in churches, potentially even in ours. We are not defined by our sins, but by the forgiveness of God. If many are motivated by fear, we are reminded in 1 John that love drives out fear; God is love, and we are called to reflect that. I hope that anyone who has had an abortion in the past and struggles with that guilt, anyone who is currently burdened with fear and guilt over a pregnancy, and of course any child coming out of such a situation, would all find a welcome with us as those we are called to care for, love, and protect. Abortion is just one more symptom of the fundamental disease of a sinful, broken world, and we as Christians must remember that our primary vocation is sharing the same love of Christ that heals, comforts, and forgives.

**June Anniversary  
& Birthdays 2019**

Lionel & Ruby Dale, Julia,  
Gloria & T.J. Schmelter,  
Kyndel Torries, Aletha  
Schollian, Tanya Hamilton,  
Rita & Jerold Shepherd



**Elders & Lay Readers**

- 3 Dave Griffin & Kevin Rademacher (Crystal R.)
- 10 Jay Torries & Dave Hamilton (John K.)
- 17 Bobby Trehern & Shawn Robbins (Kevin R.)
- 24 Kevin Rademacher & Dave Griffin (Eve W.)
- 31 Dave Hamilton & Jay Torries (Elder)



**HAPPY Anniversary!**

- 3 Eddie & Angie Howard
- 14 Jordan & Hanna Dunlap
- 16 Mark & Debbie Schulte
- 21 Kevin & Susan Rademacher

- 4 Betty Andrews
- 8 Eddie Howard
- 8 Melonee Crews
- 17 Anna Claire Howard
- 17 Katlyn Pardue
- 23 Rocky Southern
- 24 Marlene Bontly
- 31 David Hamilton Jr.
- 31 Tyti Kooienga



- 3 Debbie Schulte
- 10 Marilyn Trehern
- 17 Eve Waffel
- 24 Cathy Groff
- 31 Donna/Anna Krebs

# Mary Martha News

Mary Martha is on a break for the summer and will meet again in August. Don't forget to continue collecting your Mites!



## OTHER NEWS

- **PRAYER CHAIN REQUEST:** As a reminder to all members, a chain phone call prayer request is available for all members. To either make a chain call prayer request or to start receiving chain prayer calls, please contact either your Elder or Pastor.
- **NURSERY:** Nursery is provided for children during worship service.
- **NEW CHURCH EMAIL:** The new office email is [CLC1888@outlook.com](mailto:CLC1888@outlook.com)
- **MEMBER INFO UPDATE:** Please complete the member form and turn it in to an elder, usher, or send it in an email to help update our records.
- **VBS:** Vacation Bible School is tentatively set for July 19-21. Hope to see you there.
- **SUGGESTION CARDS:** Suggestion cards are available in the Sanctuary for recommendations and/or complaints.

## July Scripture Readings

	July 3 (Prop. 9)	Fourth S. a. Pentecost	Is. 66:10-14	Psalm 66:1-7	Gal. 6:1-10, 14-18	Luke 10:1-20
	July 10 (Prop. 10)	Fifth S. a. Pentecost	Lev. (18:1-5) 19:9-18	Psalm 41	Col. 1:1-14	Luke 10:25-37
	July 17 (Prop. 11)	Sixth S. a. Pentecost	Gen. 18:1-10a (10b-14)	Psalm 27:(1-6) 7-14	Col. 1:21-29	Luke 10:38-42
	July 24 (Prop. 12)	Seventh S. a. Pentecost	Gen. 18:(17-19) 20-33	Psalm 138	Col. 2:6-15 (16-19)	Luke 11:1-13
	July 31 (Prop. 13)	Eighth S. a. Pentecost	Eccl. 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-26	Psalm 100	Col. 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21

## LAST MONTH'S EVENTS

**Welcome to the Church family Waylon, Seth, John, & Lindsay!**



Waylon Hamilton was baptized June 12, 2022.  
He is the son of Josh and Jenna Hamilton and  
grandson of Dave and Tanya Hamilton.



Welcome reception for Seth Wilson on June 5<sup>th</sup> and John and Lindsay Tetreau on June 12<sup>th</sup>. The Christ Lutheran Family welcomes you!



## Minutes 6/20/2022

**Opening prayer:** Pastor Derek

**Minutes:** Susan Rademacher – reading of the previous minutes was waived

**Pastor:** Pastor Derek see Pastor's report

Tim Kreb's funeral service will be held Jun 22, 2022.

Planning movie night on Friday, August 19th. Pastor is open to suggestions.

Pastor will be installed as Circuit Visitor Saturday June 25th in Slidell.

Rally Day is scheduled for September 18

**President:** Kevin Rademacher

1. Thanks to Dave Griffin for holding a vote on Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> for Head Elder (Jay Torries) & depositing of \$s.
2. Any additional changes to the Constitution, Bylaws, Duties or Safety Committee?

**Vice President:** Dave Griffin No report

**Elders:** Jay Torries No report

**Financial Secretary:** Carl Erichsen

Total deposits for May \$11,049

June deposits so far \$6,033 + \$1075 for self-insurance fund

YTD deposits \$63,824.12

**Treasurer:** Lin Jacobson no report, but all bills are current

**Trustees:** Louis Bontly

1. All major exterior repair and painting to the sanctuary and exterior painting to Memorial Hall that started late February is in the final stage, installing new light fixtures will be completed end of June.
2. The new steel kitchen door is installed.
3. Laminate in both bathrooms has been re-glued.
4. LED lights have been installed in the men's bathroom.

Future projects for consideration include:

- A. Improving the drainage at and around the breeze so it flows to the street.
- B. Moving/replacing/installing a tankless hot water heater for the kitchen.

**Evangelism:** Rita Shepherd, Cathy Groff: one of the new hearing devices was tested and it works nicely. Shuckers game was lots of fun and the Shuckers won.

**Mary Martha:** Kyndel Torries no report MM is on summer break. MM provided a baptism reception for Waylon Hamilton. MM is collecting large print puzzle books and sharpened pencils for the 80th birthday celebration of LWML.

**Youth:** VACANT

**Education:** Donna Krebs: Sunday school classes are continuing. We have new materials for the children's classes for use this summer.

VBS planning is underway with a theme of "Prayer: It's good for the Soul". The dates are Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday July 19-21, 5:30 - 7:30. Save the date!

Menu plan is:

- Salads
- Baked Potato Bar
- Pizza

**Social Ministry:** Kathleen Cox, Marilyn Trehern sent cards to the Krebs family. Cathy Groff will send a card to Donald Williamson family

**Stewardship:** Michael Southern no report

**AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

**Safety:** Shawn Robbins is willing to be nominated for Chairperson if the Committee is voted permanent.

**Endowment Fund:** Members are VP, Dave Griffin, Treasurer, Lin Jacobson, Financial Secretary, Carl Erichsen, an At-Large -Council member (Donna Krebs) & Pastor Waffel.

**Old business:** Memorial Garden: a new idea was presented and will be discussed.

**New Business:** none

**Calendar:** August 21st Voters Assembly meeting to vote on proposed changes to Constitution, Bylaws, Council Duties and adding Safety Committee

August meeting start Nomination process for the Council

**Other:**

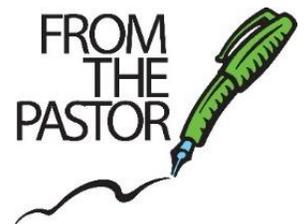
**Close:** Lord's Prayer

**Pastor's Report to the Board of Elders and Church Council June 2022**

**Membership, Worship, and Christian Education -**

Membership changes:

- Waylon, Josh and Jenna Hamilton's son, was baptized on June 12.
- Tim Krebs passed away; funeral service on June 22.
- Our new members, Seth Wilson and John and Lindsay Tetreau, were officially received and recognized on June 5 and June 12 respectively.
- The Sunday adult Bible study is going through the book of Acts. Never too late to join us!
- Janet is still working on an updated church directory; if you have not already sent her your current information, please do.
- As was requested by a couple of members, we will start including a short explanation for prayer requests in the bulletin, such as "upcoming surgery" or something like that. I want to provide a little context but of course preserve everyone's privacy as desired.



### Mission, Witness, and Outreach

- The online services are a good outreach tool! I encourage everyone to share these on your own pages, as some of you already have.
- The Biloxi Shuckers' game on Friday, June 10 was good, with groups joining us from Open Arms – Slidell and St. Matthew – Gulfport; probably about 40-45 total.
- Looking forward, I would like to plan another movie night, possibly in August. Let me know if you have any suggestions for what to show!
- VBS is scheduled for July 19-21, 5:30pm to 7:30pm as a family/intergenerational program including dinner. The theme for this year is prayer. If you would like to assist in any way, please let Pastor or Donna Krebs know!

### Circuit, District, and Synod

- Circuit meetings: we are in summer break from regular circuit meetings, which will resume in September. My term as circuit visitor officially begins on July 1, and I will be at the service of installation for District officers on Saturday, June 25.

### Travel

- Vacation time for 2022: 12 days out of 21 (1 Sunday out of 3) -  
Planned travel for July: none.

### Other Activities, General Information

- We have a new office email address: [clc1888@outlook.com](mailto:clc1888@outlook.com). The old Bellsouth email address is no longer accessible; please change your address book.
- I am planning a program to share my experiences serving in Wittenberg for a Rally Day, probably sometime in September.

## **LCMS responds to SCOTUS decision on 'Dobbs v. Jackson'**

On June 24, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling on *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. The court overturned *Roe v. Wade* by asserting that the Constitution does not confer a right to abortion and returned the issue to the states.

The people of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) have always advocated for the value of human life, which is made in the image of God. Thus, the church rejoices in this ruling while also praying for those who are hurting and afraid. For more information on the Synod's response, read:

- [A statement from LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison](#);  
[A statement from LCMS Life Ministry](#); and
- [A joint letter to U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland from Harrison and the presidents of the WELS and ELS](#) regarding increased violence against churches, pregnancy resource centers and pro-life organizations.

# JULY

## 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Adult Bible class 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Holy Communion 10:00	happy 4th JULY!					Men of Christ Breakfast 8:00
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Adult Bible class 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Holy Communion 10:00						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Adult Bible class 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Holy Communion 10:00 Elders 11:00	Council 6:00	VBS 5:30-7:30	VBS 5:30-7:30	VBS 5:30-7:30		
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30
Adult Bible class 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Holy Communion 10:00						

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

In our typical family fashion, Vacation Bible School will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Family photos will be taken for the directory. Dinner will be served each evening before Adult Bible Study. There will be classes and activities for children. Come one, come all! And bring a friend. The theme will be “Prayer, It’s good for the Soul.”