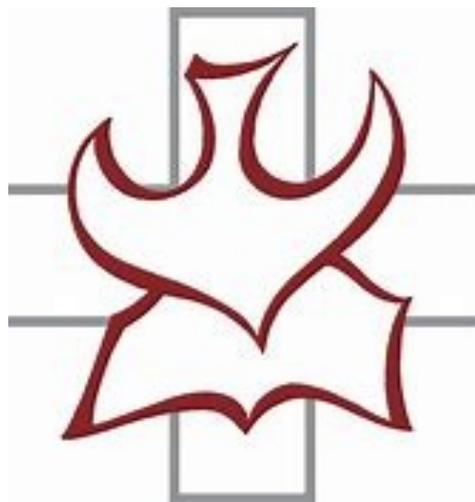


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CLC NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021



Pastor Kenneth Lentz - 928-970-1313

Published by Christ Lutheran Church, Office Administrator



Hard to believe that October is here and our celebration of the Reformation is just around the corner, on October 31. I managed to contact Fraulein Ingetraut von Hosentraeger, Dr. Luther's secretary at Wittenberg, and was glad that I was able to line up Dr. Luther again for a visit to Christ Lutheran on Oct. 31. Fraulein Hosentraeger has already booked him on a special Lufthansa flight to Sarasota. Since Dr. Luther doesn't trust horseless carriages, Jim Jung will pick him up with the Ox cart. We're looking for good deals on ox hay.

Luther was tried and convicted as a heretic at the Diet (Council) of Worms in April, 1521. Thanks to the intercession of Luther's prince, Frederick the Wise, his safe-conduct pass was honored and he was given 21 days to return to Saxony. Frederick was one of the seven "electors" of the emperor of the German Reich and was a strong candidate for the position of emperor when it was vacant in 1519. Charles V, a Spaniard, was elected when Frederick turned down the offer. Frederick never met his famous subject until the Worms council because he wanted to maintain truthfully in the midst of the reformation controversy that he hardly knew Luther. Thanks to Frederick's prominent position in the imperial hierarchy, Charles agreed to allow Luther to "get out of Dodge." Frederick arranged for Luther to be "kidnapped" at the Saxony border and spirited away to hide in the Wartburg Castle until the coast was clear. Luther used his ten months of hiding to begin his translation of the bible into the colloquial Saxon German dialect.

Prior to the "trial" at Worms, Frederick had already defended Luther. Frederick had been presented the "Golden Rose," a gift given to defenders of the pope. Frederick took the rose but refused to hand Luther over. The bribery attempt failed. In October of 1519, Frederick refused to deliver Luther up into the hands of the pope for a trial and arranged instead for Luther to be interviewed by Cardinal Cajetan at Augsburg.

Upon Luther's return to Wittenberg from the Wartburg to continue his teaching responsibilities, his relationship to Frederick remained cordial although all communications were handled by Frederick's secretary, Dr. Spalatin. Frederick never formally adopted the teachings of Luther but, on his death bed, he accepted the sacrament of the altar in both kinds, a sign of allegiance to the reformations. On his death bed he said to a servant, "Dear child, if I have ever injured you, I beg you in God's will to forgive me. We princes do to the poor people much that is not good." (LUTHER, Marius, p. 428) Luther presided at Frederick's two funerals and praised him for preserving the true Gospel. Frederick's brother, John the Steadfast, succeeded him upon the throne. John openly supported Luther and traveled widely throughout Saxony to strengthen Protestant congregations.

Thanks to Luther's contemporaries who embraced the reformation, we and all Christians (including Catholics and Eastern Orthodox) in the 21st century proclaim the essential message of revelation, the good news that God blesses and accepts us, not because of the "good deeds" we do but because of trust and faith in the mercy of God. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel our Oktoberfest until later, but we will gather together on Reformation Sunday to celebrate God's unconditional grace.

Your fellow traveler along the way,
Pastor Ken

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM UPDATE - SEPTEMBER, 2021



Pastor Lentz continues to deliver communion to congregants who are unable to attend services on Sunday. Cards continue to be sent to all members of Christ Lutheran Church who wish their birthdays acknowledged and those who are experiencing medical issues. The CCM Team is always available to visit anyone at home who may want a visit. Just contact the church office (941-474-1989), Pastor Lentz (928-970-1313) or Charlene Seltz (941-460-0183), to request a visit.

In His care and infinite wisdom,

Charlene Seltz, CCM Team Leader



COUNCIL MEETING KEY POINTS - SEPTEMBER, 2021



1. Beginning in September, high school student, Sydney Sturza will be singing the Offertory on the first Sunday of each month. Her first performance was very well received.
2. Unfortunately, due to the rise in COVID cases again, Council felt that the Oktoberfest scheduled for October 23rd should be DELAYED until the spring, when the pandemic may no longer affect our ability to celebrate.
3. President, Dotty Berner and Pastor Kenneth Lentz will be attending the FL Bahamas Synod Assembly VIRTUALLY in October.
4. Discussion regarding "Communion at the Rails" was tabled and will be re-discussed when more of our "seasonal" members/friends return.
5. Efforts will be made to add a Sunday School Class at some point during the service on Sundays.
6. Pastor Kenneth Lentz has entered into a contract with Christ Lutheran Church as of 10/1/21 to serve as a Contract Pastor with the Council's approval of two weeks paid vacation with up to six weeks' time off along with an increase in his travel expense budget.

Music and Worship - September- 2021

The Music and Worship Committee met in August. It was determined that we would resume communion at the rail for those who wish to partake, and for those who would rather not at this time, lining up for communion in the usual fashion will be instituted after the "at the rail" distribution is concluded. This will be revisited in January to determine if it is working. For the time being Pastor Ken and the Worship Assistant will be gloved and masked. Communion cups will be proffered from the communion tray to each person at the rail individually.



It was agreed that high school student, Sydney Sturza, will sing unaccompanied on the first Sunday of each month. Her songs have been chosen thru December.

The Hymn of Praise has been changed to a tune found on page 202 of the hymnal.

In service

Lois Greene for Music and Worship

Attendance and Financials		
Date	#	Amount
September 5	37	\$3,394.00
September 12	31	\$1,505.00
September 19	43	\$1,987.00
September 26	38	\$520.00
		\$7,406.00

EVANGELISM TEAM UPDATE --SEPTEMBER, 2021

WANTED...TEAM LEADER. In the absence of a team leader, several Council members continue to reach out to the community to "Make Christ known..."(C13.07.C17-Constitution of CLC). As of



September, 2020, several Council members took it upon themselves to develop a "Welcome Neighbor" Invitation postcard to new residents of our community. This practice has continued, however more hands are needed to continue this practice. Recently, older copies of "Our Daily Bread," are being recycled around the community, labeled "recycled by Christ Lutheran Church...The dates may be different, BUT the message is the same." The devotional can be placed at Laundromats, restaurants, beauty salons, etc. (with permission, of course). Anyone from the congregation can do so. Old labeled copies, along with the latest Devotionals will be available on the table in the Narthex. Please help CLC "Make Christ known." If you would like to join others in getting His word out, please contact the church office at 941-474-1989 or Charlene Seltz at 941-460-0183. In such troubling times, many are turning to God. Help us make Him known.

In service to

Christ-Charlene Seltz





“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS”



It
was
a
BIG
success!

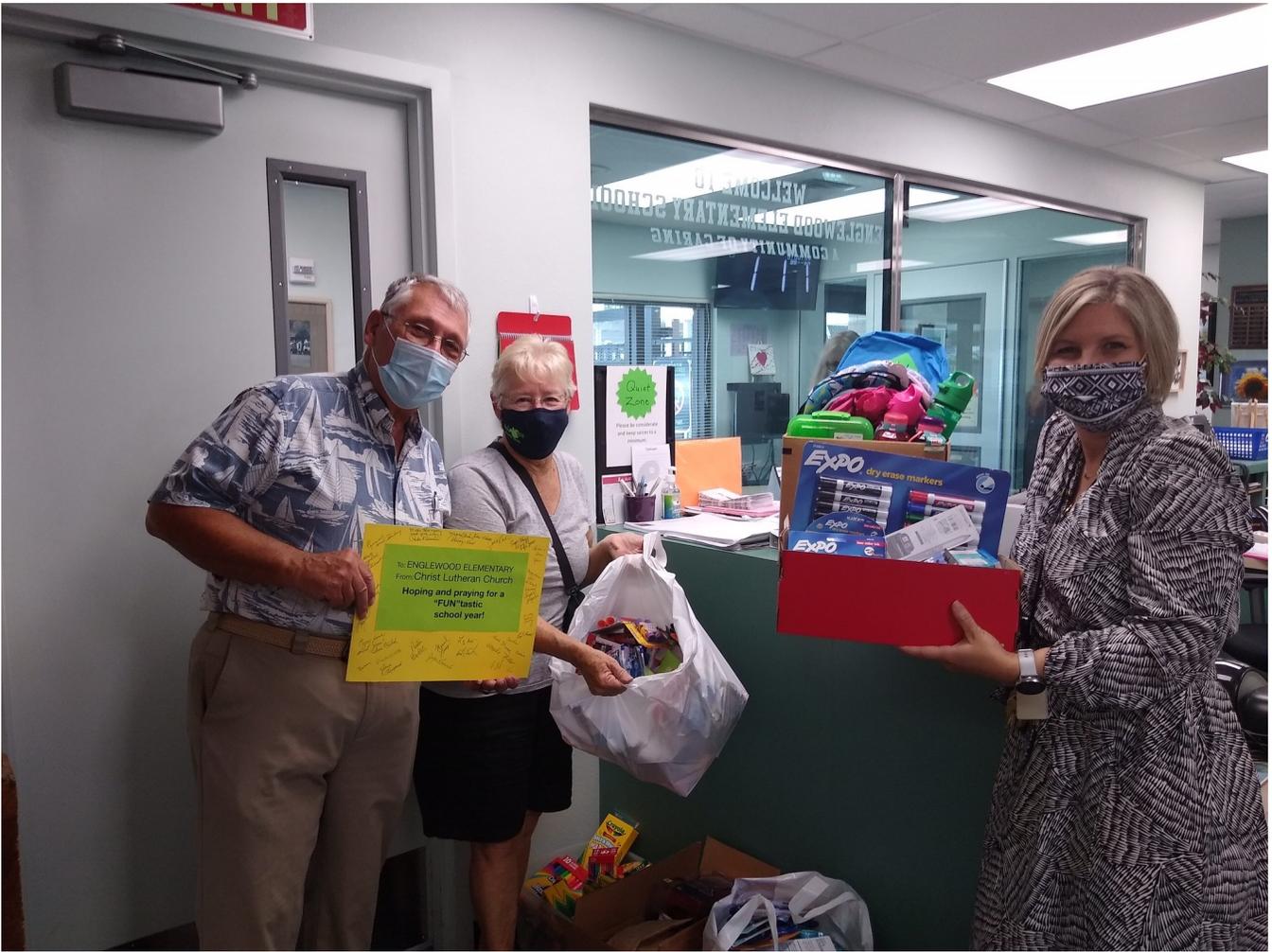
Dotty Berner, Peggy

Elshoff and Ellen Novotny

donating school supplies for our “God’s work. Our hands” project.

“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS” was celebrated on September 12th with the culmination of our project for Englewood Elementary School. Thank you for all the donations of needed school supplies! Pastor Ken and Carol Rice delivered the supplies on Monday, the 13th, along with the card signed by all on Sunday...”Praying for a FUNtastic school year! Amen!” The staff at Englewood Elementary School was thrilled with these gifts for the children! Thank you again for the outpouring of love to the children and teachers in our community!

ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND



P
as
to

Mr Ken Lentz and Carol Rice delivering the school supplies to Englewood Elementary School.

Stacy O. was excited to receive these gifts!



QUILTING and KNITTING



Christ Lutheran Church Comfort Quilters and Knitters gather in the Fellowship Hall the 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month, from 9-12. We enjoy a time of Christian fellowship and service. All willing hands and hearts are welcome...no previous experience or skills are necessary. Please come and join us in making quilts and prayer shawls!

THRIVENT MEMBERS HAVE SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

If you are a Thrivent member, please direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars every time period. Also, please plan to request and use your Thrivent Action Grants...2 per year, each valued at \$250. That is \$500/ year of outreach opportunities in the community.



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SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING

Our next Social Ministry Team Meeting will be at 11am on Thursday, October 28th (instead of October 14th). Our team is always seeking new members and outreach opportunities. Please join us.

Thank you for all the weekly donations of food and personal care items in our "Little Red Wagon"! These items help to provide necessities for people in our community. Christ Lutheran volunteers will be working in the pantry on Wednesday and Thursday, October 20th and 21st. Please contact Carol Rice (941-475-1017) if you would like to volunteer.



Due to COVID updates, volunteers need to wear masks in the pantry. Also, as always, close-toed shoes are worn to protect our feet.

Peace and Joy!

Carol Rice for the Social Ministry Team



October	
Sandy Scheuermann	10/02
Steve Nielsen	10/05
Julie Erickson	10/09
Helen Eckert	10/18
Jodie Rock	10/18
Andy Egeland	10/19
Barbara Houmiel	10/23

There are no anniversaries for the month of September.

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, and you would like it to be, please contact the office to share your special day.