

Christ Lutheran Church, Inc., of Englewood, Florida
701 North Indiana avenue
Englewood, FL 34223

Church office 941-474-1989
E-mail: office@christlutheranfleng.org
Website: www.christlutheranfleng.com

CLC NEWSLETTER

JULY

2026



Pastor Kenneth Lentz - 928-970-1313
Published by Christ Lutheran Church, Office Administrator



When serving Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Venice, I was happily invited every year to Jon and Lois Steketee's picnic at their home on July 4th. One of the guests read an essay she had found extolling the benefits and freedoms of our democratic republic. This year's celebration is special. Although this year's celebrations don't seem to me to rival the festive proportions of fifty years ago, preparations for the observance were massive. I missed the on-person witness of the occasion because I was with a youth group in Germany but I and the kids marked the event by waving some flags and singing "God Bless America" at a German tavern. Youngsters over 16 had been given permission by their parents to down a local beer.

One legacy we celebrate is the courage of the founders of our republic. If the revolution had failed, there might have been a lot of talented patriots hanging from ropes attached to distinguished necks. Daniel Webster once noted, "No man can suffer too much, and no man can fall too soon, if he suffer, or if he fail, in the defense of the liberties and constitution of his country."

It is a blessing that once a year, we go to some trouble to remember the freedoms we enjoy. A few years ago, a student from the University of Wisconsin began to read the Declaration of Independence upon the steps of the state capitol and asked people to sign the document he was reading. He was arrested by the police, suspected of being a Communist. Those who heard him read did not even recognize the words of the Declaration of Independence. I arrived in Germany to study about twenty years after the end of World War II. I encountered the last vestiges of recovery in West Germany including an occasional pile of rubble here and there but I also witnessed first hand the sad state of repair in Berlin. Several forays into East Germany revealed the state of Communist oppression in the DDR. Those experiences engendered in me a feeling of gratitude for the blessings of American citizenship.

Last Sunday I referenced the blessings of separation of church and state. Many of our spiritual forebears came to the American shores in part to escape the trappings of the state churches in their homelands. Soren Kierkegaard lamented the state of the Danish state church, burdened with lazy and apathetic clergy aligned with corrupt statesmen in parliament. When working as an exchange pastor in the German church in Buxtehude in 2001, I sensed apathy and little enthusiasm among some of the pastors who were safely enthroned in their pastoral office with little fear of losing their high positions as state-supported officers of the state. Holding office was their only obligation. (But I also met highly conscientious Lutheran pastors as well) The state collected the "Kirchensteuer," the tax income turned over to the Landeskirche to pay the pastors and maintain the centuries-old structures housing valuable objects of art. At just about the time I was serving at St. Petri Church, the legislators voted to no longer require citizens to pay the church tax. In order to be eligible for the services of the church, one spouse often remained in the church as a declared Protestant or Catholic while the higher earning spouse officially renounced membership in the church.

Our constitution forbids our congress from making any laws regarding the establishment of any one church and guarantees freedom of religion for all. Without any alliance to the state, the church in America is free to raise the voice of alarm when our democracy is in peril, to proclaim justice and equality for all, and to demand that our elected representatives practice civility and commit themselves to the preservation of civilization committed to the common good. Happy fourth!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Ken

Your Council @ Work

JUNE 16, 2026



Fellowship and Stewardship Committee
to discuss planning of Friendship Sunday/Fish Fry.
Men's group will set up for event

Women's group next meeting June 23 at 4pm, at Nancy
Berry House. Next meeting July 18 at 3:30 at
Char's house.

OLD BUSINESS

Second person to count tabled for now

Fire alarm question if up to date will call Steve

Copier Approved
Because DEX will no longer honor a maintenance contract on our copier, because of age ...
1. We will purchase a refurbished "top of the line" copier from JM Todd for much less than a new one
and JM Todd will guarantee as if "new."
2. we will pay 862.50 for 4 months interest free
3. \$35 month maintenance fee that covers everything but paper.

Vaccines Approved
1. CVS Wellness Saturday set for November - date TBA
2. The vaccine clinic will take place in the Fellowship Hall and the CVS Pharmacist will be our
secretary's daughter, Nicole.
3. As last year, 6 or more vaccines will be offered.
4. Look for more information to come.

Weight Watchers Approved
1. Starting August 5th - Wednesdays 4:15 to 6:15

Liability Insurance Approved
1. more research to be done.
2. Letters will be sent to all vendors and renters for certificate for insurance.[COI]
3. If they do not have one, they have to sign a waiver and obtain COI by September 1 approved

Meeting adjourned 3:45 pm



OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND (EHH) - Thank you for donating food and personal care items to EHH! It is wonderful to see our Little Red Wagon full! EHH is located on the campus of Englewood Methodist Church, 700 E Dearborn St. and is open to clients on W and TH, from 8am-1pm. The addition to the pantry is complete and the added space is great! Thank you to our June volunteers who work on Tuesdays to prep for the busy client days: Joyce Hanisits, Carol rice, and Kat Smith and to Lois Greene and Rick Valenti who helped during open pantry days. Additional volunteers are needed on Wednesday, August 26, and Thursday, August 27. If you would like to volunteer as a pantry worker, please let Carol know.



GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS - September 13, 2026 - Our project to celebrate this ELCA day of service will support Englewood Helping Hand. We hope to overflow our Little Red Wagon and have an opportunity to learn more about the mission and work of EHH in our community. If you are a Thrivent member, we are needing help applying for Thrivent Action Grant money for this event. Please speak to Carol rice to help.



GREETING CARDS - We thank Ellen Novotny for continuing to send notes and cards to our members.

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS - Please continue to keep our homebound members in your thoughts and prayers. Their names are listed each week in our Sunday Bulletin.

KIDS' NEEDS of ENGLEWOOD - We continue to collect new and gently-used clothing for Englewood area elementary, middle and high school students, ages 5-18. These donations can be placed in the Kids' Needs collection box in our narthex. Thank you to all who have donated items recently. Pastor Ken enjoys volunteering with KN and reports that they have been very busy lately.



QUILTING AND KNITTING - Please join us for a time of Christian fellowship, fun and service...no skills necessary. We meet in the Fellowship Hall from 9-noon every Wednesday. All willing hands and hearts are welcomed and needed. Our quilts are donated to Lutheran World Relief and sent throughout the world at times of disaster.

Beautiful knitted and crocheted Prayer Shawls and Lap Robes are donated locally. We need help making more prayer shawls. If you know someone who would be blessed by a prayer shawl or lap robe, please let Pastor Ken or Carol Rice know.

THRIVENT - Are you a Thrivent member? Please remember to direct your Choice Dollars each quarter. Christ Lutheran is blessed to receive these gifts. Also, please consider applying for a Thrivent Action Grant (value of \$250) to support a special project for our church and/or the community. Most Thrivent members can qualify for 2 grants per year. Grant requests can be initiated by calling Thrivent or by going online. Need a project idea? The Outreach Ministry Team will help.

TROSHUK FAMILY - Pastor Ken and Ellen N. visit the Troshuks on many Saturdays for stories, games and language lessons. Please continue to support our Ukrainian family with your prayers, including prayers for immigration relief and world PEACE!??



The next Outreach Ministry Team meeting will be on TH, June 11, at 11am in the office meeting room.

Peace and Joy!

Carol Rice for the Outreach Ministry Team Pastor Ken, Ellen Novotny, Pastor Linda Fernandez and Kat Smith



If you are planning to bring baked goods to church for fellowship after service, please text or call Angie Ziegler at 941-525-7829

Joyce Hanisits, council rep to Fellowship Ministry



New CLC Phone directories (green cover) are available. Again, please let us know, via e-mail, a note, phone call, or carrier pigeon, etc. if your information needs updated. PLEASE, if you have changed or there is an error, please let us know. We can't express how important it is to keep us up to date by sending us any NEW info at office@christlutheranfleng.org telling us to add or correct your e-mail. And remember, penmanship counts ... if I can't read it . . . guaranteed it will be 100% incorrect.

Christ Lutheran Church Privacy Statement . . .

The Church Directory of Christ Lutheran Church is provided to the members for the purpose of conducting church business only. The church Directory is not for sale and use of the information; including names, telephone numbers, emails or web addresses for purposes other than church-related business is strictly prohibited.

June 29, 2026

Dear Ellen Ray,

We all want to thank you for a wonderful and very successful **CLC Friendship Sunday** gathering.

We know it can be challenging to get your folks up, out-of-bed, off the fishing boat, to come to a special event. But you got them there and helped them get the BBQ set-up and food displayed. Well done!!

Thank you so much for assisting with the decorating. Helping to hang the banners, place flags out, put Duckies in the fountain and setting the tables. Excellent.

From your elegant dress, beautiful shoes to your warm and wonderful smile, you made the day a big success. Thank you for your hospitality of going table to table, personally offering dessert to help everyone enjoy the day. You are a true blessing to Christ Lutheran Church.

Thank you!

Christ Lutheran Men

July & August

***The Men will take a break from meeting until August**

MEN'S MINISTRIES,

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men of Christ Lutheran Church meet in Christian Fellowship to share and serve our Lord and our Church. All Men are welcome and encouraged to join with us.

John 15:16

Jesus said "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you"

So, wherever we are, no matter what we are doing this summer, let us all remember to be **Disciples of Jesus**, to bear "good fruit" and share His mercy, grace and Good News! Amen

Sept. Meetings: at church.

September 2026:

Thursday, Sept. 10th, 9am at church, coffee & devotions

Thursday, Sept. 24th, 5:30pm for **PIZZA with PASTOR, BYOB.**

New Opportunities to Serve, Coming this fall:

September: Roadside Clean-up.

Help with "Friday Night Done Right".

**Special presentation by THRIVENT—
financial planning.**

October: Halloween Safe-Walk Booth

December: CLC Annual Holiday Dinner Gathering

Mark Baker, Facilitator



Greetings,

We have started a Women's Group at CLC. We met for the first time the end of May. The group talked about goals, services and fellowship. It seemed fellowship and camaraderie was the most popular theme and it was decided to meet monthly.

Our second meeting in June was at my house for tacos and rummy cube with an attendance of eight with great conversation and great time. I feel there is a lot of love between our members at CLC. The group discussed helping out at Helping Hands and what that entailed. Hopefully Helping Hands will be getting more volunteers.

The next meeting will be at Char's house in Stoneybrook at 3:00pm on July 18th. Entrance to Stoneybrook is on Center Road. Char will be hosting a cookout and supplying the meat. Please sign up in the narthex and mention what side dish you would like to bring. All women of CLC are welcome.

As a group we have dedicated meals will not always be a part of our meeting, but now, in the slow summer, we are enjoying it.

My goal is to form a strong bond of women to serve and love in our church.

Blessings to all, Nancy Berry



Summer is definitely here! It sure came in with a bang. The streets are less crowded, no wait at restaurants, and hot, hot, hot. The only thing missing is rain. I do miss our seasonal members, the church is not the same without them. I pray for their safe return.

In June, we had a nice time and good food with Forks and Fellowship. The Women's group met at my house. We had a great time with a huge unexpectly loud surprise as my kitchen ceiling fan came crashing to the floor . . . violently, I might add and as you can guess, scared us all.

Friendship Sunday was a big success thanks to Andy, Val, Ellen Ray, Ingrid, Herb, Angie, Mark and Rick for their hard work. Some of our generous ladies added to the feast with pasta salad, fruit salad and desserts. Everyone seemed to enjoy the event.

As a side note, happy 250th birthday America. What a celebration! I feel so blessed to be an American and believe it is the very best place on earth to live for so many reasons.

I pray for all to have a healthy, safe, spirit filled summer. This slow time of the year is a good time to dive into God's word. May you grow in fruitfulness.

Nancy Berry, Council President



If your birthday is not listed,
and you would like it to be,
please contact the office,
via e-mail at . . . office@christlutheranfleng.org

to share your special day

July		
Raymond	Thompson	07/07
Phyllis	Case	07/09
Brendajean	Patterson	07/11
Heidi	Flebbe	07/14
Marie	Remer	07/16
JeanAnn	Caporaso	07/19
Salvatore	Mele	07/20
Robert	St.Pierre	07/21
Susan	Hangsleben	07/23
Pam	Christensen	07/23
Christi	Simmons	07/23
Rachel	Wiggan	07/24
Debra	O'Neill	07/28
Martin	LaDue	07/30
Bob	Singer	07/31



Church Attendance

June	Attendance	Giving
06/07	22	\$3,158.00
06/14	34	\$3,651.05
06/21	32	\$471.00
06/28	45	\$1,323.00
	0	\$0.00
	133	\$8,603.05

TIME & TALENTS Survey



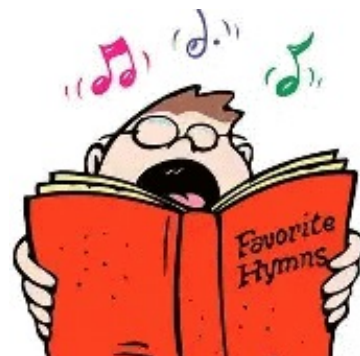
Please assist the church by completing a survey for each member in your household. The information in the survey is a very valuable tool to Christ Lutheran Church. It allows us to know which of our members would be good on which committees, who is willing to serve in which areas, and which of our members have talents that can be shared with the church. This may involve education, training, and practice in various fields, always with the intent of glorifying God. It's been many years since we did our last survey and it is important to have up-to-date information about the gifts God has given to each of us to use for His glory. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. This survey can be picked up in the Narthex and returned at your earliest convenience. Forms are available in the church office. Thank you!

ABRAHAM



**PICK YOUR FAVORITE HYMN TO SING
DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.**

PLACE BLUE CARD IN COLLECTION PLATE



07/01	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00PM / FORKS & FELLOWSHIP 5:00PM
02	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-12:00PM / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00PM
03	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00AM
04	HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY 4 TH
05	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
06	VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30 ^{PM}
07	BOOGIE CHAIR 9-10 ^{AM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12 -5 ^{PM}
08	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00 ^{PM}
09	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-12:00 ^{PM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
10	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM} / FISH FRY 5:00 ^{PM}
11	
12	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
13	VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30 ^{PM}
14	BOOGIE CHAIR 9-10 ^{AM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
15	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00 ^{PM}
16	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-12:00 ^{PM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
17	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM}
18	WOMEN GROUP 3:30PM ... AT CHAR'S HOUSE
19	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
20	VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30 ^{PM}
21	BOOGIE CHAIR 9:00-10:00 ^{AM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM} / CHURCH COUNCIL 1:00PM
22	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00 ^{PM}
23	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-NOON / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
24	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM}
25	
26	WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 ^{AM}
27	VENETIAN HARMONY - 6:30 - 9:30 ^{PM}
28	BOOGIE CHAIR 9:00-10:00 ^{AM} / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
29	QUILTING 9:00- 2:00 ^{PM}
30	COUNTRY LINE DANCING 9:00-NOON / BRIDGE CLUB 12:00 - 5:00 ^{PM}
31	TAI CHI 10:00-11:00 ^{AM}

2ND WELLNESS CLINIC
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
701 N. INDIANA STREET, ENGLEWOOD, FL



A CVS PHARMACIST WILL BE ON SITE TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING IMMUNIZATION SHOTS.

FLU SHOT - LATEST VERSION
SHINGLES

COVID - LATEST VERSION
MMR (MEASLE/MUMPS/RUBELLS)

PNEUMONIA
TDAP (TETANUS/DIPHTHERIA/PERTUSSIS)

RSV (RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS)
OTHERS AVAILABLE, JUST ASK!

CLC MEMBER, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS ARE ELIGIBLE.

THE COST, IN MOST CASES, IS ZERO, AS MEDICARE AND/OR INSURANCE WILL COVER IMMUNIZATION.
MORE INFORMATION TO COME!



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
701 N. INDIANA AVE
ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223
941-474-1989

GROUPER FISH FRY
JULY 10, 2026 4-6PM \$15.00



ABRAHAM

1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8	9
10					11					
12					13					
14				15						
		16					17	18	19	20
21	22							23		
24						25	26			
27					28					
29			30		31					
			32	33					34	35
36	37	38					39			
40							41			
42							43			

ACROSS

- 1 Arlington bugle tune
- 5 Abraham's wife (Genesis 17:15)
- 10 Jai ____ (fast moving sport)
- 11 "I suppose that's okay"
- 12 apple-juice entrepreneur
- 13 _____ Ease (comforts)
- 14 Respite (from)
- 16 A wee bit
- 17 Baseball scoring stats
- 21 Apple catchphrase
- 23 "Spring ahead" time in NYC
- 24 "Wherefore I will bring the ____ of the heathen" (Ezekiel 7:24)
- 25 Journalist ____ Rogers St. John
- 27 "The Lord of the Rings" baddie
- 28 Castle projection
- 29 "M.A.S.H" soft drink
- 31 Aliases, for short
- 32 "The Situation Room", e.g.
- 36 The prosperous land God promised to Abraham (Genesis 17"8)
- 39 "Desperate Housewives" Hatcher
- 40 "The Gift of the Magi" author
- 41 "A likely story!"
- 42 Obama's vice president
- 43 "I Walk the Line" singer

Down

- 1 Caps with pom-poms
- 2 Baseball family with Moises and Matty
- 3 Term fittingly applied to Abraham as founding father of the Covenant (Genesis 17:4)
- 4. "Cheers" and "Friends," e.g.
- 5 Female saints for short
- 6 Change
- 7 "Treasure Island" inits.
- 8 Dentist's group
- 9 fresh out of the oven
- 11 Son of Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 21:3)
- 15 Gallic state
- 18 The "well of the oath" between Abraham and Abimelech is now called what? (Genesis 21:22-34
- 19 "...an ____ soul shall suffer hunger" (Proverbs 19:15
- 20 Chop-chop!"
- 21 Excited cry in a casino
- 22 Now the serpent was ____ subtil than any beast of the field ,,, (Genesis 3:1)
- 25 Arctic sea birds
- 26 Extreme, as measures
- 28 Colored like a lion's coat
- 30 Silly
- 33 Be paid, as a salary
- 34 Mine deposits
- 35 What "Con" can mean
- 36 Corn core
- 37 Hawaiian Tuna
- 38 "Game of Thrones character ____ Stark