



October Life Lines 2025

Volume 40 Issue 10

October 2025

Christ Lutheran Church
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PASTOR:
THE REV. LEWIS A. GROCE
lewis111661@gmail.com
(615) 925-9903

October Readings

October 4 & 5

17th Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading..... Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalm.....Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading.....2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel.....Luke 17:5-10

October 11 & 12

18th Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading.....2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalm.....Psalm 111

Second Reading2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel.....Luke 17:11-19

October 18 & 19

19th Sunday after Pentecost

First ReadingGenesis 32:22-31

Psalm.....Psalms 121

Second Reading.....2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

Gospel.....Luke 18:1-8

October 25 & 26

20th Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading.....Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalm.....Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading.....2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel.....Luke 18:9-14



October 2025

Birthdays

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> Linda Pluff
<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> Mark Floros	<i>8</i> Pam Nowicki	<i>9</i> Marlen Sterud	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> Bev Olin	<i>13</i> Norton Strommen	<i>14</i> Cathy Lada Fran Soper	<i>15</i> Kathleen McCarthy	<i>16</i> Geir Bergvin	<i>17</i> Gene Ferris Donna Shiller	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> Cynthia Olsen	<i>21</i> Dee Haberman	<i>22</i> Fay Kowalsky	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> Leanne Hildebrandt	<i>25</i> Dick Botsford Carol Donalson
<i>26</i> Wilma Emling Joan Teister Kathie Whiffen	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> Ben Welch	<i>31</i> Linda Ferris Karen Toomey	



October 2025

Anniversaries

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2 Katherine Pellek (10)	3	4
5	6	7 Marlen & Doris Sterud (70)	8	9	10 Sue Gauerke (61)	11 Cynthia Olsen (39)
12	13	14	15	16	17 Richard & Linda Queen (55)	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



A Message from our Pastor

*Pastor
Lewis Groce*

There is tension within our country and there is tension within our congregation. I have heard the grumbling. I have spoken to some of you directly. It has come to my attention that there is a “group” of people. Not sure how many people this includes, but more than one. I would like to address this “dis-ease” in a hopefully constructive fashion.

No one benefits from simply pretending that “everything is fine” or “if we ignore it, maybe it will go away.” I can tell you from first hand experience, this does not work. So let’s try something different. Let’s try talking about what is bothering us. I understand for some that I am the problem. Let’s address that.

I am inviting you to share your complaints, concerns and/or comments with the Congregation Council on Thursday, October 9 - 1:00 PM. We will stay as long as you want or need. I am calling this “Open Conversation.” That’s the churchy title. Think of it as “clear the air”, “get it off your chest”, “say what you need to say.” No notes - no time clock - no debate - nothing off limits. Similar to having a splinter in your finger, if your concerns remain unaddressed they will become a much bigger deal down the road.

Here’s the bottom line. I do not want this fester and explode at a later point. Whether one person or one hundred, we can have an adult discussion about difficult issues. Whatever it is you need to say, come and say it. Most of us are not comfortable with conflict, and this is not going to be a debate. I cannot promise to solve all your issues, but I will listen and receive them.

1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people,[a] in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

We are not perfect people. You are not and I certainly am not. But we are placed into community and together we have a job to do - a ministry to perform - a gospel to share. Let’s address whatever is causing friction and move forward.

God’s Peace-

Pr. Groce



Christ Lutheran's Council Corner

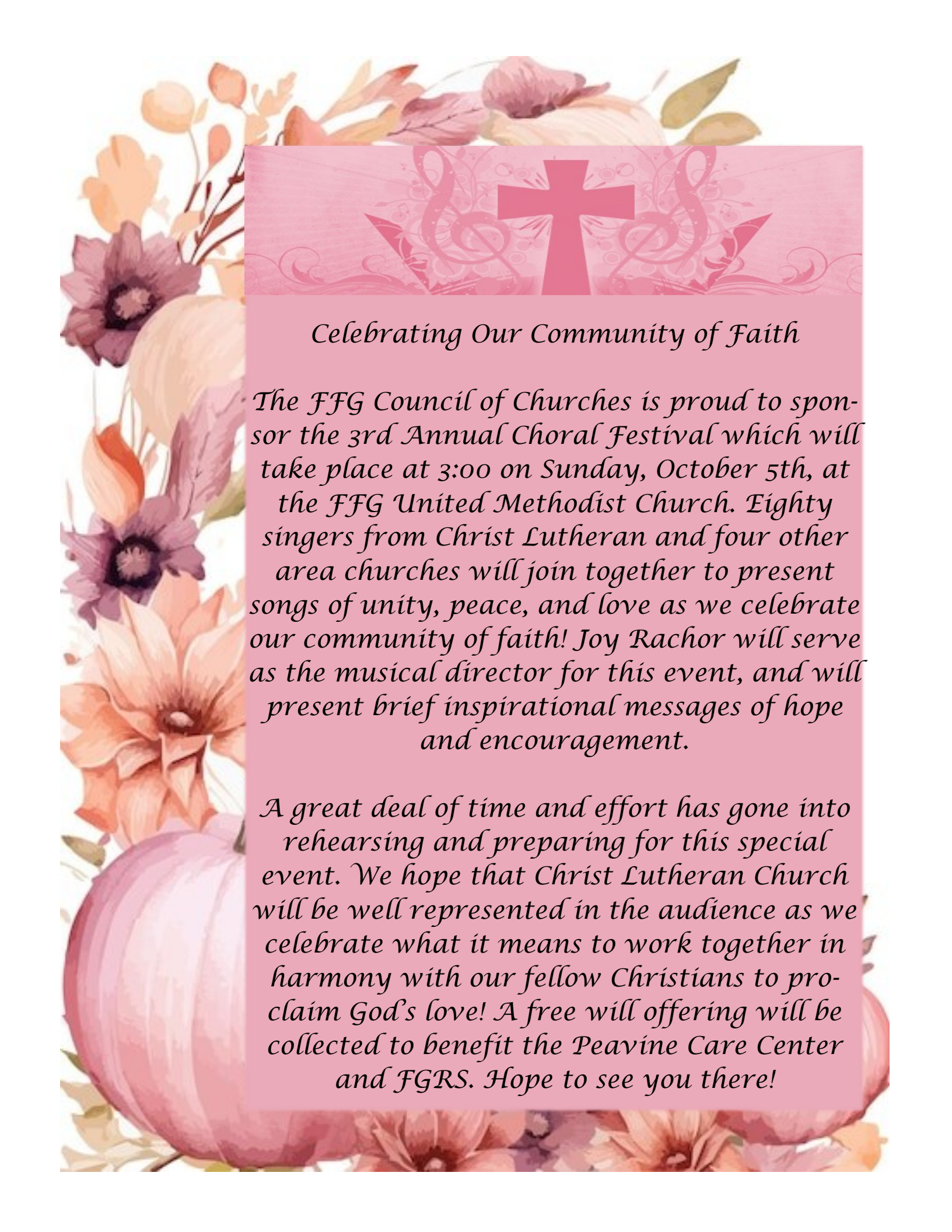
WELCOME TO THE COUNCIL'S CORNER!!!

It's my council corner turn. For those of you that don't know me I am Denise Knebel, church council secretary. My husband Richard and I moved here eight years ago from New York state and began singing in the choir before we were members. I have served (and still serve) on various teams over the years and look forward to many more years of service. Speaking of service, do you know that CLC has nine standing teams that serve the congregation and many more ad hoc teams. Education, fellowship, finance, worship & music, stewardship, service, IT, welcome and property to name the main teams. Each team has a leader and some have co-leaders. Most teams meet monthly generally for no more than one hour. Team leaders are listed on the bulletin board. Perhaps there is something or somewhere that is calling you to serve. Even just writing notes, baking cookies (or buying them) and calling people are part of serving. There is always room for ushers, lectors, communion assistants, fellowship help, property workers and many more. Many hands make light work and this is our church and we need you to help the church grow and move forward. Please pray about how you can serve and ask not what your church can do for you but what you can do for your church.

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. Philippians 2:3-4

Yours in Christ

Denise Knebel



Celebrating Our Community of Faith

The JFG Council of Churches is proud to sponsor the 3rd Annual Choral Festival which will take place at 3:00 on Sunday, October 5th, at the JFG United Methodist Church. Eighty singers from Christ Lutheran and four other area churches will join together to present songs of unity, peace, and love as we celebrate our community of faith! Joy Rachor will serve as the musical director for this event, and will present brief inspirational messages of hope and encouragement.

A great deal of time and effort has gone into rehearsing and preparing for this special event. We hope that Christ Lutheran Church will be well represented in the audience as we celebrate what it means to work together in harmony with our fellow Christians to proclaim God's love! A free will offering will be collected to benefit the Peavine Care Center and JGRS. Hope to see you there!

*Good
Morning*

A Note from Fellowship



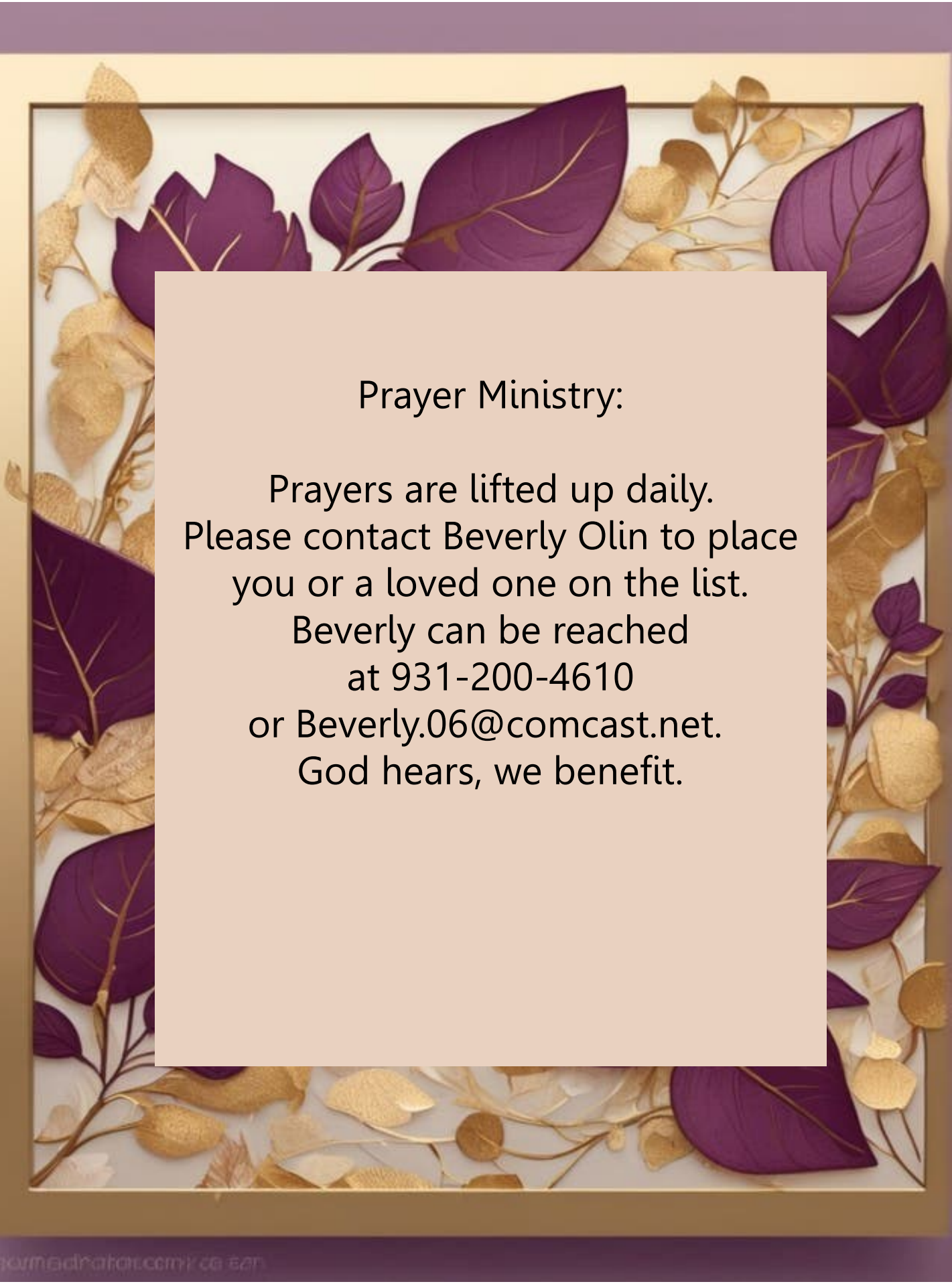
You have company visiting and you are bringing them to worship with you. Have you ever thought about bringing them to coffee hour to visit and meet some of your church family, to be able to actually sit down and have a conversation with them? To show them what your church is really made of.

You have new neighbors that just moved in and they ask you about church, you invite them to come to CLC with you. Have you ever thought about inviting them to coffee hour so that they could really get to know some of the congregation before they even enter the sanctuary?

You come to church every Sunday morning, have you ever thought about joining in on coffee hour? A great way to bond with your church family. Fellowship is such an important part of growing together in the church. The coffee is on, the hot cocoa is ready, and there is always something good to snack on.

Hope to see you soon!

8:30-9:15 Fellowship room "B"

A decorative border surrounds the central text area, featuring a mix of large, dark purple leaves and smaller, gold-colored leaves on thin, brown stems. The background of the slide is a solid light purple color.

Prayer Ministry:

Prayers are lifted up daily.
Please contact Beverly Olin to place
you or a loved one on the list.

Beverly can be reached
at 931-200-4610
or Beverly.06@comcast.net.
God hears, we benefit.



Meet Your New Music Director

Josh Davis has been hired to assume the duties of CLC Music Director when I officially retire at the end of this month. He has been working alongside me since the beginning of September, and has already had several opportunities to display his incredible piano skills during Sunday morning worship services!

Josh is a native Tennessean who graduated from Tennessee Tech University in 2016 with a degree in piano performance. He then spent several years working as a choral pianist for multiple choirs in Colorado and Montana, while also serving as a church pianist and organist. Since moving back to Cookeville, Josh has played for various Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Episcopalian churches in Tennessee. He continues to work as a collaborative pianist for the music department at Tennessee Tech, where he performs on numerous faculty and student recitals each year, and remains active as a solo pianist and chamber musician. When he's not making music, Josh enjoys movies, cooking, and long walks.

Christ Lutheran Church is indeed fortunate to have such a talented and delightful person to carry on the work of our music ministry! I know you will enjoy the expertise Josh brings to this position, and hope that everyone will make a point of getting to know him. You are in for a treat!

Joy Rachor

The Jewish Community has 2 upcoming holidays that we are invited to celebrate with them.

Rosh Hashanah is the New Year in Judaism. The biblical name for this holiday is Yom Teruah.

It is the first of the High Holy Days, as specified by Leviticus 23:23–25, that occur in the late summer/early autumn of the Northern Hemisphere.

**Rosh Hashanah evening Monday, September 22 at 7 pm
Rosh Hashanah morning Tuesday, September 23 at 11 am**

Yom Kippur is the holiest day of the year in Judaism. It occurs annually on the 10th of Tishrei, corresponding to a date in late September or early October.

For traditional Jewish people, it is primarily centered on atonement and repentance.

Yom Kippur Kol Nidre evening Wednesday, October 1 at 7 pm

**Yom Kippur afternoon Thursday, October 2 at 5 pm
The Yom Kippur afternoon service is followed by a dairy break-the-fast pot luck meal.**

Please note that these services are longer than the Friday Shabbat service and are led by a Rabbi.

The services are held in the fellowship area at Christ Lutheran. If you plan to attend the pot luck meal the cost is \$15 and we would need to know by September 22nd that you plan to attend to let the Jewish Congregation know how much food to plan for.

Thank you for your support of our Jewish Community.

The Education team.



Barrel Ministry

Through September and October, CLC will be accepting your slightly used coats or new coats for children and adults. This is our Barrel Ministry until November when they will be passed out to those in need! Men's coats, women's coats, children's coats, baby coats and teen's coats are all needed!

*Thanks for sharing,
your Service Team*



SECOND ANNUAL SPAGHETTI SUPPER

OCTOBER 9, 2025

Tickets are on sale now for \$10.00 each.

Don't miss this opportunity to support the Peavine Care Center and the Phoenix School and enjoy a delicious meal of spaghetti with meat sauce and/or Italian sausage and all the fixings.

Volunteers to help in the kitchen and dining area to cook, collect tickets, serve, clear tables, and wash dishes will be needed.

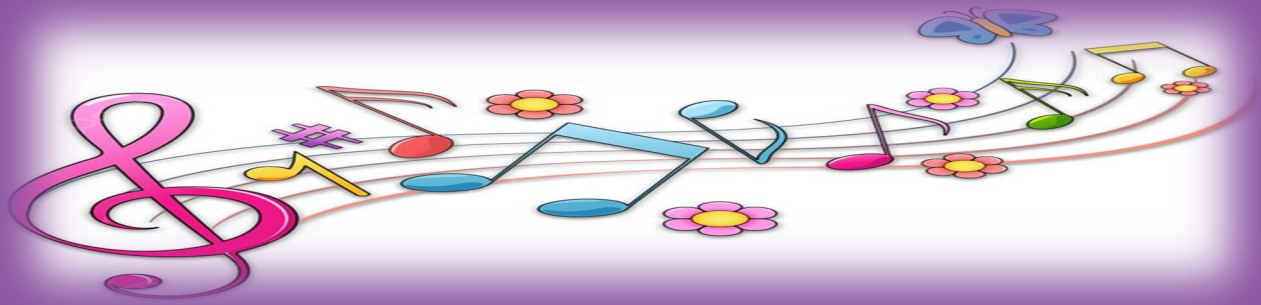
Please sign up on the service bulletin board as you are able.

Sign-ups will be posted on August 31.

If you are able to sell tickets, please contact:

Linda LeBreux 508 243-3144 or

j.lebreux@comcast.net



Retirement Luncheon

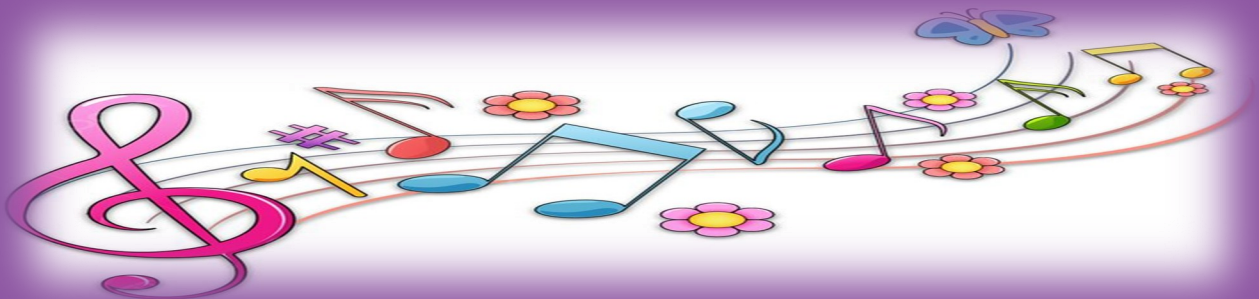
Honoring:

Joy Rachor-Music Director

Sunday October 26

Following Church Service

Everyone is welcome to attend just sign up on the bulletin board across from office.





\$ 10 Soup Luncheon

**Includes choice of five soups
cornbread or crackers
Cookie / Beverage**

Dine In or Take Out

**Friday, November 14
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**Christ Lutheran Church
481 Snead Drive
Fairfield Glade, TN**

New this year! Craft table!

Sponsored by the P.E.O. Sisterhood

**Proceeds benefit
women's educational scholarships**

By: Denise Knebel

Annual Chili Dinner



**Fall, Football, Food & Fun Fellowship
What Could be better?**

**Join Us for a Chili Dinner
On
Friday November 7, 2025
At
5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**

**Cost: 1 jar of peanut butter to be do-
nated to the Peavine Care Center,
Or bring a crock pot of your favorite
Chili, a batch of cornbread,
or a dessert.**

**See sign up sheet on the hallway
bulletin board**

**Contact Deb Tenny if you need a
ride to the dinner
(434) 237-2120**



Bread of Life:

Thank you again to the via de Cristo Tuesday couples reunion group for preparing and serving the September meal! I'm sure it was well received and appreciated by many.

We stopped by the mission recently and learned the need is great. The number of individuals residing in the facility has increased and those picking up meals has as well. They have been preparing meals to serve over 80 individuals. What does this mean for us? We will need more of everything. The October menu is posted on the first bulletin board. Share a line item with a friend or jump in with both feet and make something new. Your efforts will brighten the day of a hungry neighbor.

Thank you from many. Should you have questions, contact us.

Donn & Linda Vance
901-493-5529

Game Night

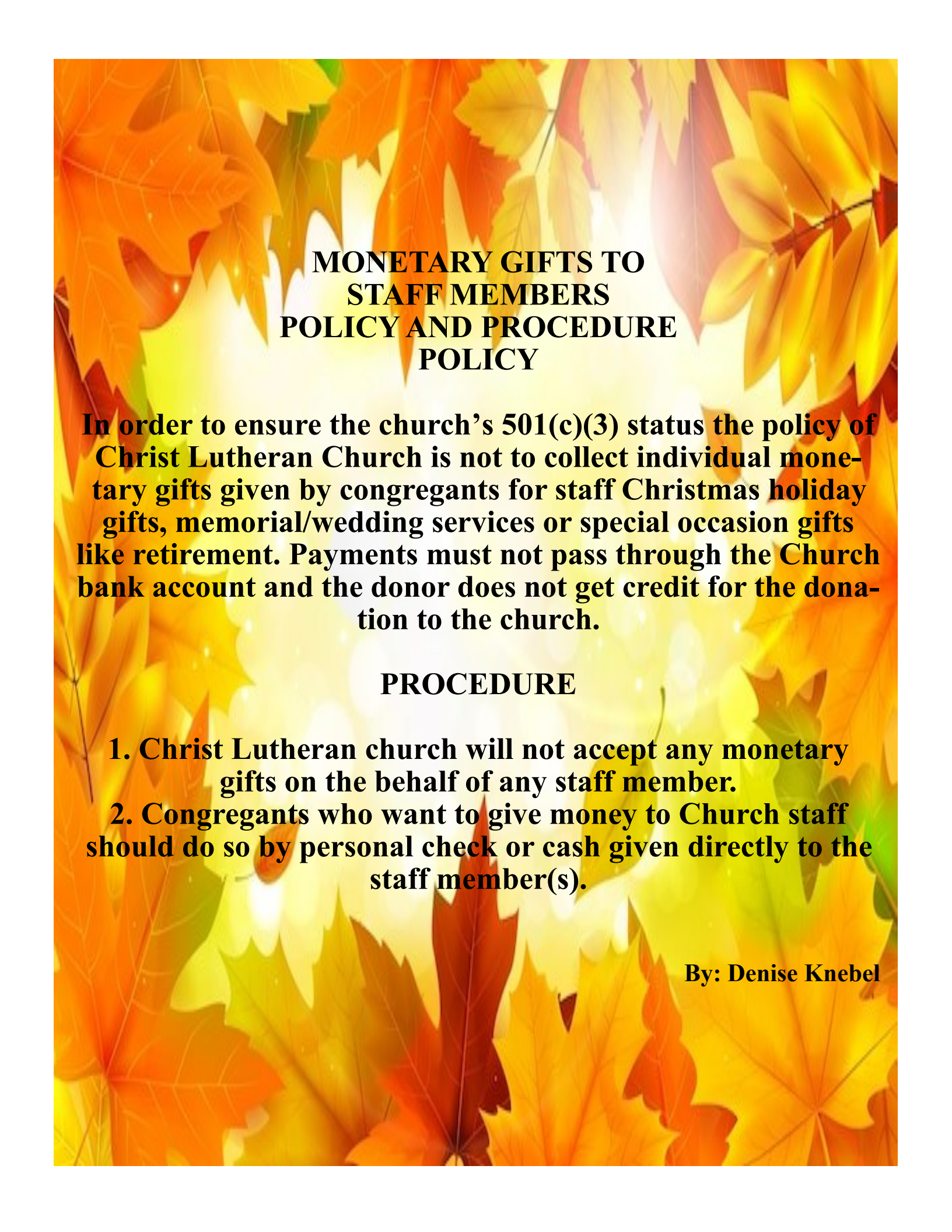
Sharing some information about "Game Night".

Kathie and Becky have given game night their best efforts.

Due to lack of participation or none at all, they have decided to step away from this activity.

However, maybe there is someone in our congregation that would like to take it over. If you are interested, please let Pam know in the church office.





MONETARY GIFTS TO STAFF MEMBERS POLICY AND PROCEDURE POLICY

In order to ensure the church's 501(c)(3) status the policy of Christ Lutheran Church is not to collect individual monetary gifts given by congregants for staff Christmas holiday gifts, memorial/wedding services or special occasion gifts like retirement. Payments must not pass through the Church bank account and the donor does not get credit for the donation to the church.

PROCEDURE

- 1. Christ Lutheran church will not accept any monetary gifts on the behalf of any staff member.**
- 2. Congregants who want to give money to Church staff should do so by personal check or cash given directly to the staff member(s).**

By: Denise Knebel

Stephen Ministry:

Stephen Ministry is alive and thriving at Christ Lutheran. Please contact a Stephen Leader to determine if you could benefit from having a Stephen Minister listen and pray with/for you. This is a free and confidential program provided for our members.

Your leaders are:

Carol Donalson

Sue Gauerke

Judy Hammond

Beverly Olin

Linda Vance



In Our Thoughts & Prayers



- **Don Baassler**
- **John Gibson**
- **Glen Goergen**
- **Al Moenck**
- **Gisela Reinhardt**
- **Jan Rhind**
- **ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL**
- **Kiswahili Lutheran Mission Church,**
Nashville, mission partner
- **ELCA Global Mission**
- Ivory Schwaberow-daughter in law of Ed &
Lynne Schwaberow
- Terri Gawrych niece of Barbara Kalmar
- Rozella Lipke—Joe Teister's cousin's wife
- John Oniga, brother to Lou Oniga
- Lou Weatherford—Friend of Al & Cindy
Love

Blessing of the Pets

Sponsored by Council of Churches

Monday, October 6 at 10:30 AM
at St. Francis Catholic Church

All are welcome to bring their beloved pets — great and small — to receive a special blessing in recognition of the joy, companionship, and unconditional love they bring into our lives. Whether furry, feathered, or scaled, every creature is a reflection of God's creation and is cherished in the eyes of our faith.

Join us as we celebrate the spirit of love, peace, and care for all living things!





MEDIC
REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER



GIVE BLOOD AND BOO-ST A LIFE!

Fairfield Glade Council of Churches
MEDIC Blood Drive

at Fairfield Glade Community Church

Friday, October 3

10 am - 3 pm CST

MEDIC Bus

Donors receive a grey MEDIC tumbler!



Scan the QR code to
make an appointment.



Esther Dinner September 2025

Thank you again to Cheryl Brown for another successful Esther dinner. Over 50 women broke bread together but not before we reviewed run, hide or fight with demonstrations.

We had an interesting discussion on Rahab and hiding spies.

What would you do?

Thank you also to Steven Brown for making everyone red key rings as a reminder of Rahab's bravery



By Denise Knebel