



## West Clermont Lutheran Church

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**Office Hours:** Monday thru Friday  
8:30am-1:30pm

**Council President**  
*Randy Wiedenhoff*  
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**Pastor**  
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## August 2024 Newsletter



### From Pastor Mike: August 2024

Summer went by so fast. I know folks had fun this summer with baseball, softball, camps, bible schools, vacations, the 175<sup>th</sup> celebration, and the fair. Soon it will be back to school, fall sports, Sunday School, and Confirmation classes.

With all of the activities at the end of summer and back to school, it is easy to put God on the back burner if everything else is going well. I know it is hard to make it to church with everything that is scheduled in your life but, don't forget that we have options. You can watch Facebook Live at our normally scheduled time, or you can watch the video on our Facebook page at your convenience later if you are not able to make it in person. Take time out to thank God for all that you have and the opportunities that are available.

You may have noticed that the landscaping is changing around the church. Kathy Wander, with the help of Kyle Wander and Diane Butikofer, have been working to reinvigorate the flower beds. While in some places you can see an immediate improvement, some of the bushes will look worse before they look better. Be patient as you watch our outdoor space transform. This reminds me of Romans 8:25, "But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience." Although it is appropriate for us to wait patiently for the landscaping to realize its full potential, Paul really wasn't talking about landscaping here, he was talking about

waiting patiently for God's salvation which was begun with Jesus' resurrection to be fully realized when Jesus comes again.

We have one more month of services in the park on non-communion Sundays. Bring your lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on and join us before the summer is gone. May God bless you all in the month ahead. Amen.



### **West Clermont Lutheran Church Council Meeting –July 3, 2024**

Present: Randy Wiedenhoff, Kyle Wander, Kathy Wander, Kenny Monteith, Rodney Wagner, Brittany Bassett, Wendy Steffens, Diane Butikofer, and Pastor Mike Erickson.

Randy called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Pastor Mike opened with prayer.

Motion made by Rodney to approve the agenda. Brittany second, motion carried.

June minutes read. Motion made by Brittany to approve the minutes. Wendy second, motion carried.

**Treasurer report:** All routine receipts for June. Motion made by Brittany to approve treasurer report. Rodney second, motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:** Aug 24<sup>th</sup>, Global Church Festival, Mason City, \$10 per person. Will present again next month to see if anyone is interested in attending.

#### **Old Business/Committee Reports:**

- A. **Constitutional Revisions-** tabled for next meeting for couple council members to review for next meeting.
- B. **AED Training-** It was planned to have been held 2 weeks ago, but was postponed. Training will be held on an as needed basis with impromptu sessions for anyone interested.
- C. **Parking Lot Awning-** It has been decided that this idea is not feasible at this time. Discussed alternative solution of obtaining umbrellas to be available to use by the front door. Kenny will obtain some prices and bring back next month for further discussion.
- D. **Other-** None.

#### **New Business:**

- A. **Church Light-post Banner-** there are new banners being placed on the light posts downtown. The church is purchasing a banner for \$35. Kathy has already sent a check to the City to cover this expense.
- B. **Propane Contract-** Prepaid contract is for 4,400 gallons @ \$1.48 per gallon. With a current credit we have the cost would be: \$4,787.03 which would need to be paid by July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Motion made by Kenny to move forward with this contract. Wendy second, motion carried.

- C. Boiler Inspection punch list-** Inspection was done and cut off switch from inside the broiler room has been moved to outside the room by NEIA Mechanical. The quarterly check will be completed this coming week.
- D. Outside landscape maintenance-** There were some concerns verbalized recently about the condition of the landscaping in front of the church. Kathy has volunteered to head up the project to do some updates. She will apply for a Thrivent Card to offset the cost.
- E. Elevator Contract-** another vendor has offered their services for elevator maintenance. The cost is very similar to our current contract. The decision was made to continue with our current vendor.
- F. VBS now and future-** We have done VBS in the past with St. Peters. They are not interested in having a combined group this year. Kay & Jess are not available to put together a program this summer. We will encourage people to go to programs at other local churches. There may be an option to do something with EWALU in the future, but we would need to have a minimum of 25 kids. At this point, we will plan to have a more robust Rally Sunday later this year and look to do a 1-day VBS program next year.
- G. Other-** Randy presented Cindy Thias as a potential candidate for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Noisy Can offering. Cindy is going through cancer treatments.

### **Announcements & Important Dates**

- A. **Newsletter items** are due by Wednesday, July 24, 2024.
- B. **Copper Creek Service** is Wed., July 10 @ 10:30am.
- C. **Pictorial Committee** Phone meeting with company is July 16. Photo shoot to take place October 1-2 from 2-8:30pm each day.
- D. **Senior Fun Day** is July 10 from 2-4pm.
- E. **Lila Elsie Massman** was baptized on June 30, 2024
- F. **Marilyn Knutsen** passed away June 16. Her funeral was June 21.
- G. **Inez Oakland**, wife of Vernon Oakland passed away on July 1. Funeral is on July 12 @ the Opera House.
- H. **Office computer storage-** External hard drive for storage has been purchased.
- I. **Noisy Can 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter-** Sarah Updegraff-Murray
- J. **175<sup>th</sup> Celebration-**We are participating in the parade, games, and in charge of the ecumenical worship. Applied and received \$250 from Norwegian Mutual Insurance to offset some costs. We have volunteers who have candy to donate & to participate in the activities.
- K. **July Worship Schedule**
  1. July 7 – 175<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Worship in the Park @ 10 AM. (in church if raining)
  2. July 14 – church (Holy Communion)
  3. July 21 – park
  4. July 28 – church (Holy Communion)

### Closing Prayer/Adjourn

Motion made by Randy to adjourn at 6:29 p.m. Rodney second, motion carried. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

*Submitted by Kenny Monteith.*



**WELCA Board did not meet in July.**



### August, 2024

DATE	READER	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION	BREAD
8/4*(church)	Denise Nelson	Natalie Bassett	Amy Cummings	Denise Nelson
8/11 (park)	Deb Guyer	Sutton Schrader		
8/18 (park)	Sarah Dean	Keegan Klemp		
8/25* (church)	Amy Cummings	Ryan Dean	Kathy Wander	Marlene Yauslin

### August Ushers: Brant Schrader, Jed & Peyton Dean



08/01 Berg Roger  
 08/02 Wilker Crystal  
 08/05 Lembke Kevin  
 08/07 Nalty Kenny  
 08/14 Erickson Betty  
 08/17 Swenson Robert  
 08/21 Cummings Chloe  
 08/24 Miller William  
 08/26 Butikofer Joshua  
 08/29 Lerch Riley

08/01 Jacobsen Haley  
 08/04 Amundson Nicholas  
 08/05 Lembke Renae  
 08/08 Cummings Reed  
 08/17 Jacobsen Jonah  
 08/18 Bassett Brittany  
 08/23 Amundson Ray  
 08/24 Price Carol  
 08/26 Wander Johnathon  
 08/31 Cummings Amy

08/01 Spain Vincent  
 08/04 Kerner Karen  
 08/07 Dinan Kaitlin  
 08/09 Miller Karen  
 08/17 Swenson Brock  
 08/20 Schrader Sutton  
 08/23 Jacobsen Ericka  
 08/25 Klemp Jason  
 08/27 Wilker Emma  
 08/31 Cummings Tim



### Offerings: June 30, 2024 – July 21, 2024

#### Sunday, June 30, 2024

Loose: \$182.00

Regular: \$795.00

**Total General Fund: \$1,022.91**

Roof: \$180.00

Building Regular: \$20.00

Building Fund: \$200.00

#### Attendance: 76

Noisy Can: \$42.16

Copies \$3.75

**Sunday, July 7, 2024**

**Attendance: 85**

*Ecumenical Worship- no offering collected*

**Sunday, July 14, 2024**

**Attendance: 58**

Flow Thru: \$221.43

Loose: \$63.00

Copies: \$7.25

Basement Rental: \$50.00

Regular: \$3,575.00

Noisy Can: \$47.11

**Total General Fund: \$3,963.79**

Bldg/Roof: \$180.00

Memorial Fund: IMO Marilyn Knutsen-\$50.00

Luther League: IMO Marilyn Knutsen-\$10.00

**Sunday, July 21, 2024**

**Attendance: 30**

Loose: \$72.00

Regular: \$160.00

Noisy Can: \$14.92

**Total General Fund: \$246.92**

Memorial Fund \$20.00 IMO Jennifer Ruckdassel for solar fund from Ruth Circle



### **August 2024 – Navigating Transitions: From Summer to Fall, from Struggle to Strength**

Though the longer days of summer, BBQs, and running through sprinklers are coming to an end, cool evenings at the football stadium, beautiful color-changing leaves, and spending the school day with friends are upon us. As Iowans prepare for the multicolored season of autumn, LSI is here to help you navigate the changing of the seasons.

Transitions can be a difficult time for anyone, and LSI provides services to ease the process of change.

Our Immigrant and Refugee Community Services help new arrivals to the U.S. resettle and start a life in Iowa. Our Host Homes program helps adults living with disabilities transition to greater independence through a mentor-mentee relationship. Our Early Childhood Services prepare parents expecting a child for a healthy birth and provide support as children transition from milestone to milestone. Our foster parents provide safe, loving homes for children moving through the foster system as they await adoption.

Whether we're helping someone through a difficult life transition in therapy or teaching former refugees English and cultural competency skills, at LSI we're there every step of the way. If you need support during a transition in your life, visit [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) to learn more about our services.

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563-676-2065.

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) and [facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*



### August Worship Schedule

**August 4-** Church (Holy Communion)

**August 11-** Worship in the Park

**August 18-** Final Worship in the Park

**August 25-** Church from this point on. (Holy Communion)



**Montauk Organ Series @ the Union Sunday School** kicks off on Sunday, Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm. A theatrical performance by community members about the controversial presidential race between Hayes and Tilden in 1876. There will be comedy and music to enjoy! A light reception will follow the performance at the Opera House.

## Shepherd of the Hills Ministries NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2024



### ***Please consider supporting our youth with Back to School***

*Our Back to School Event is August 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am-5pm. Referral is required to participate in this event.*

*Being we are hosting this event early this year, there will be some great sales on school supplies through the end of August. If you are out and about and see some deals, it's never too late to grab supplies for Shepherd. I am willing to store them here for the 2025 Back to School Event. Some of these items are too good to pass up, especially back packs! Thank you for all your kindness and generosity for the children in the community.*

### **Clothing Center Updates:**

*Our thrift store is getting full of donations for the summer season. Please follow our Facebook page for updates on when our next Saturday sale will be. Our prices are mostly only \$1.00 each, but some Saturday sales they can be as low as .50 cents.*

*Please continue to schedule a day for your donations as this allows me to control the flow and allow me to get new items out faster. We will be accepting fall clothing in late August and winter clothing in October.*

### **Shepherd Conference News:**

*We would like to extend our congratulations to our very own Pastor Jeremy Wolfe on his Ordination. He was ordained on July 28, 2024 at St. John Lutheran Church in Farmersburg, Iowa. Pastor Jeremy will be serving St. John Lutheran Church in Farmersburg and Luana. He has also served on the Shepherd of the Hills board on the worship committee for the last two years. Congratulations!*

*Please help me in congratulating Pastor Adam Starrett at Elgin Lutheran Church in Elgin, on the anniversary of his Ordination on August 8, 2010. Congratulations Pastor Adam!*

The **Operating Fund** pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies, salaries and Lawn/Snow Care.

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities and our sponsored events throughout the year. Please utilize the **MEMO LINE** on your check to specify Crisis or Operating Fund!

**Please indicate what church you are from as well to provide better bookkeeping.**

### **IMPORTANT EVENTS/DATES:**

**Annual Hog Roast  
October 6 from 4-7pm  
WELCA Hog Roast Quilt Raffle  
(more details coming next month)**

*\*Any event may be subject to change*

### **Shepherd of the Hills:**

Heather Hageman  
100 W. Hill Street, PO Box 36,  
St. Olaf, IA 52072  
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**Business Hours: Monday-Friday  
9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm**



**HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!**





## Prayer List

**Requested:** Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Don Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Lynzee Henrikson-Makowski, Karen Kohls, Ardell Fortune, Julie Albertson, Danice Cummings, Larry Kohls, Karen Kerner, Terry Cummings, Sarah Updegraff-Murray, Ashlyn Busta (niece of Kayleen Schrader).

**Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins:** Millard Nelson, Betty Erickson, Gail Herman, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Judy Nelson.

**In the Military:** Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Kennedy White.



**Senior Game Day** is on Wed., Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> & Aug. 28<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm. Come join us for some snacks and fun! All are welcome!

**Noisy Can Offering** for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter (July-Sept.) will go to Sarah Updegraff-Murray, daughter of Sue Updegraff. Sarah fell this past winter and broke her neck. She has made great progress, but the road to recovery is long.



**Illyria Community Church VBS-Seeking Our Savior**, is August 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7pm (meal provided). Call 563-245-3296 for more information and to register.



**Gundersen Health System** will be hosting a virtual *Healthy Living with Chronic Pain* workshop Wed., afternoons for 6 wks., starting August 7. This workshop focuses on strategies for understanding and managing pain and stress management for adults. For more information, please call Vicky at 608-775-6870 or email [wellness@gundersenhealth.org](mailto:wellness@gundersenhealth.org).

**Elgin/Clermont/Wadena Blood Drive** is Wed., Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-5:30pm at the Elgin Legion Hall. See bulletin board downstairs.



**Pictorial Directory Registration is now open.** Our dates of photography are *Tues., Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> and Wed., Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>* from 2-8:30pm each day. Just for participating you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a church directory. You will view your images right away and have the chance to purchase family portraits for your own memories and to give as gifts. You can make an appointment in person, after church, on communion Sundays in August, or by clicking the link at the end of this announcement. Link is open Monday-Friday. **Link:** [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com). Click on “photography appointment scheduling login” on right. Church Code: **ia313** Password: **photos**



**Direct Deposit Offering** is available for your weekly/monthly offering. Simply contact the office for account and routing information. It's fast and easy!



**Compassionate Companions** is the devotional in the May/June edition of the ELCA Gather Magazine used for Circle Meeting. It is a beautiful article that focuses on how congregations can play a role in mental health for all. Several copies have been placed in the downstairs entry for anyone who would like to read the devotional. The whole magazine is dedicated to mental health so, don't stop at the devotional, read on. When you are done, bring it back to the downstairs entry so someone else may enjoy!