



West Clermont Lutheran Church

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July 2024 Newsletter



From Pastor Mike: July 2024 Newsletter

It is officially summer! We have been having services in the park on non-communion Sundays. We have been rained out once already. Please look at the schedule for July and August to see which days we plan to be in the park.

On June 1, Marcia Wiedenhoff and I attended the Creative Collaborative Congregations Ministry Fair in Waverly. It was a busy day with over thirty different workshops to choose from. We also had a worship service with a band made up of volunteers from across the synod. Additionally, there were various tables with discussion topics over lunch.

In the morning, the first workshop I attended was "Providing Spiritual Care for Those Who Are In The Hospital Or In Hospice Care Is An Important Role For Congregations." Rev Elizabeth Retz led the discussion. She is a healthcare chaplain. This was geared more towards visits to people in large facilities or large hospitals or instances where you may not have already established a relationship with the person in the hospital or on hospice. It was a good refresher on providing spiritual care and meeting people where they are in their faith life and circumstances.

The second morning workshop I attended was "Ukraine-Moral Trauma." Rev John Sheahan led this discussion. This presentation was about a mission trip that he was on with several other people to bring supplies to Ukraine and provide trauma counseling to affected people. It is amazing how resilient the people of Ukraine are. It is also unbelievable the way in which the Russian forces try to stamp out any sense of hope among the people in the captured regions. I found out that there is a bounty of \$500

for every pastor or community leader that a Russian soldier kills. A pastor brings hope to a community, even in the midst of chaos, so the Russian authorities want to remove anything that can give the people hope. It is a truly sad state of affairs, but the people are resilient.

In the afternoon I went to “Divina Moments: Many Ways to Listen for God.” I wanted to try something out of my comfort zone. This was surely it. It went over praying with doodling. It also covered prayer with music. And lastly, we talked about praying with poetry. It was a little more artsy than my engineering mind could fully appreciate in one sitting. I’m glad I attended it to open my mind a little but I don’t think it will become part of my everyday routine.

Lastly, Marcia and I both attended the “How To Bring Solar To Your House Of Worship.” This was presented by Eagle Point Solar. They are from Dubuque and have been installing solar panels for over 14 years. Over a third of their customers have been non-profits, like churches. They are very experienced in working with the utilities and with all of the paperwork and permits that are required. They are also experienced in helping customers get their rebates.

Below are Marcia’s comments from the workshops she attended:

The first workshop I attended was Faith Formation and Volunteer Recruitment: Thinking Outside the Box. We shared current practices and then stretched our imaginations to consider fresh alternatives with creative thinking to revitalize our faith community and positive techniques to approaching volunteers.

Next was the workshop: Immigrant and Refugee Community Services, held by LSI. Shared the expansion of services for Immigrant and Refugee Community in Des Moines and Sioux City and now being offered in the Cedar Valley (Waterloo). There are many services offered to help these families settle into society. As LSI welcomes and resettles families from across the globe to Iowa, they are asking groups to put together Welcome Kits. Many of their refugee families arrive in Iowa with few possessions or supplies. These kits can help them as they begin to rebuild new lives here and make a home in Iowa. This would be a great service for our church to participate in. Keep posted!

During Lunch, we gathered in small discussion groups of our choice. I chose Feeding America. This program is practiced in many rural area food shelves. 119 billion pounds of food is wasted in the United States each year. Last year, the Feeding America network and their partners rescued 3.6 billion pounds of groceries. They ask manufacturers, farmers, and merchants to consider donating canned and fresh foods to such food banks instead of taking items to the landfills.

Art as Spiritual Practice was my next venture. This was a Hands On for all ages. We were able to select any type of crafty items and create whatever the Holy Spirit was flowing out of you. This is a practice for any age. Fun, easy and a safe place for us to play and encounter God.

Pastor Mike and I finished our day attending: Information for Churches Wanting to go Solar.

(WELCA put together 10 Birthday Cake Kits that we delivered to the C3 Assembly. We returned with 20 Kits. We were asked to deliver the kits to our local Food Pantries. 8 went to Fayette County Food Shelf in Fayette. 10 went to Open Hands Food Shelf and 2 stayed at our Little Pantry.) *Marcia Wiedenhoff*

Have a great summer! *Pr. Mike*



West Clermont Lutheran Church Council Meeting –June 5, 2024

Present: Randy Wiedenhoff, Kathy Wander, Kyle Wander, Kenny Monteith, Tasha Massman, Rodney Wagner, Brittany Bassett, Teagan Schrader, Diane Butikofer, Pastor Mike Erickson.

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

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

May minutes read. Motion made by Kyle to approve the minutes. Kenny second, motion carried.

Treasurer report: All routine receipts for May. Motion made by Brittany to approve treasurer report. Kenny second, motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Church mutual insurance statement to review

Old Business/Committee Reports:

- A. **Constitutional Revisions-** tabled for next meeting for couple council members to review for next meeting.
- B. **Synod Ministry Fair-** Marsha & Pastor attended 4 workshops. Pastor will include summary of these workshops & include in July newsletter. Attended workshop on solar. Currently have 2 bids on solar, Pastor has another contractor that does solar for down the road project.
- C. **175th Parade Entry-**Idea for have a couple banners or signs to attach to the trailer/vehicle. Will contact Steve Murray, West Union on availability. Looking for volunteers or Sunday school kids to walk along the float to hand out giveaways. Motion made by Tasha for \$200 to purchase signs & supplies for the float. Brittany second, motion carried.

New Business:

- A. **Office computer storage-** Office computer is running out of space on lab top. Needing to purchase external hard drive to transfer files & backup. External hard drive will be stored in the vault. Tasha made a motion to purchase external hard drive. Brittany second, motion carried.
- B. **AED Training-** Will offer demonstration on AED we have in our church at fellowship on June 23rd after church.
- C. **Boiler Inspection punch list-**Inspection was done and cut off switch from inside the boiler room to outside the room with cover. NEIA mechanical will need to complete this prior to inspection next year. We are no longer grandfathered in. 1st day of month of each quarter office will test the relief value & have check off.
- D. **Parking lot Awning-**tabled
- E. **Noisy Can 3rd Quarter- (July-Aug-Sept)-** Family for 3rd quarter will be contacted by Deb prior to posting. Diane made motion to have family contacted for 3rd quarter. Kenny second, motion carried.
- F. **Other:** New frig was donated by Wiedenhoff family for fellowship area.

Announcements & Important Dates

- A. **Newsletter items** are due by Monday, June 24th.
- B. **Copper Creek Service** is Wed., June 12th @ 10:30am.
- C. **Pictorial Committee** is being formed. Phone meeting with company in July. Photo shoot to take place October 1-2 from 2-8:30pm each day.

D. **Senior Fun Day** is June 12th & 26th from 2-4pm.

E. **Dinan/McDowell Wedding** is Saturday, June 29. Rehearsal on Friday, June 28.

F. **June Worship Schedule**

1. June 2- church (Holy Communion)
2. June 9- park
3. June 16- park (Father's Day)
4. June 23- church (Holy Communion)
5. June 30- church (Baptism & Quilt of Valor Presentation).

Closing Prayer/Adjourn

Motion made by Rodney to adjourn at 6:56 p.m. Kyle second, motion carried. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.



WELCA Board Meeting Minutes- Wednesday-June 5, 2024

WELCA Board met on June 5, 2024 @ 1:02 pm. Those attending were: Linda Hyde, June Swenson, Deb Guyer, Mae Becker and Marcia Wiedenhoff.

Secretary's Report: Minutes read individually. Mae / Deb / Carried:

Treasurer's Report: Checking balance: \$2,589.38. Savings balance: \$3,222.34. Quilting fund: \$393.05. Motion to approve: June/Linda/Carried

Old Business:

1. **SWO 36th Annual Gathering:** June 15 at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Waverly. 8:30 - 2:00.
2. **Clermont 175th / Montauk 150th:** Marcia and Deb Jacobsen will get things together for handouts and prizes for *Spin the Wheel* for July 6th in the city park. Marcia handed out a work schedule. 12:00 - 1:00 / 1:00 - 2:00 / 2:00 - 3:00 One from each circle to work each time slot.
3. **Synod Assembly:** June 1, C3-Event at Wartburg. Pastor and Marcia attended. WELCA put together 10 B-Day Cake kits for unkind offering.
4. **Clock in Music room:** Has been installed.
5. **Fridge in Coffee Area:** A new one was donated. The old one went to Pastor's office. Marcia installed an electrical bar for easier access.
6. **Meeting at EWALU:** Joint Circle meeting at EWALU for a tour of the grounds, Bible study and lunch. Arline Davison will set this up in the fall. Waiting for more details.
7. **Church in the Park:** Services will be in the park except for Communion Sundays and Bad Weather, in which it will be at the church.
8. **Rummage/Bake Sale:** Set for Friday, September 20th- 2:00 - 6:00 and Saturday, September 21st 9:00 - Noon. Sunday, September 22nd after church. *Bring items to the church starting Monday September 16th. Tables will be set up and labeled. Individuals are responsible to place items in designated area. Household items, Baked goods and fresh produce. NO CLOTHING!

New Business:

1. **Correspondence:** Global Health Ministries
2. **Prizes from Oriental Trading:** Marcia and Deb are wanting to order Crayons, Coloring books and Long Arm Stuffed animals to add to the prize giveaway. Deb/Linda/Carrie.
3. **GHM "2024 Newborn Kit Challenge:** Discussed WELCA participating in this. Circle Presidents will take information back to circles.
4. **No July Meeting.**

Sunday coffee Schedule: June – *Ruth*; July – *Sarah*; August – *Mary*.

Coffee Hour Area (Yearly): *Sarah*. Kitchen (Yearly): *Mary*. Fresh Flowers/plants & Seasonal Decor (Yearly): *Ruth*.

Altar Duties (May, June, July and August): Ruth.

Motion to Adjourn: 1:48pm June / Mae / Carried

Closing: The Lord’s Prayer **Next Meeting:** August 7, 2024 @ 1:00pm

Submitted: *Marcia Wiedenhoff*, Board President/Secretary



July, 2024

DATE	READER	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION	BREAD
July 7 @ 10am (park)	Aaron Steffens	Brailyn Dirksen		
July 14* (church)	Mark Erickson	Ryan Dean	Deb Guyer	Karen Kohls
July 21 (park)	Diane Butikofer	Natalie Bassett		
July 28* (church)	Natalie Bassett	Sutton Schrader	Marsha Swenson	Arline Davisson

July Ushers: Kenny Butikofer, Jason Klemp, Aaron Steffens



07/04 Fortune Ardell
 07/07 Monteith Maryn
 07/08 Wander Kyle
 07/13 Spain Stephanie
 07/15 With Hope
 07/22 Ruckdashel Phillip
 07/27 Butikofer Allison
 07/30 Kerner Kaylee

07/04 Wescott Lisa
 07/08 Anderson Linda
 07/10 Kohls Lawrence
 07/13 Tague Evelyn
 07/19 Amundson Les
 07/23 Johansen Bodie
 07/29 Knickerbocker Brianna
 07/30 Klemp Summer

07/06 Hoeck Jean
 07/08 Kittelson Peggy
 07/12 Patterson Patricia
 07/14 Amundson Ruth
 07/22 Bishop Neal
 07/26 Massman Teagan
 07/29 Knickerbocker Grayson
 07/31 Herman Suzanne



Offerings: June 2, 2024 – June 23, 2024

Sunday, June 2, 2024

Loose: \$21.00

Regular: \$415.00

Total General Fund: \$475.37

Memorial Fund: \$25.00-IHO Arnold & Deb Guyer Anniversary

Building Fund / Roof: \$180.00

Attendance: 37

Copies: \$14.25

Noisy Can: \$25.12

Sunday, June 9, 2024

Flow Thru: \$250.00

Regular: \$1,160.00

Total General Fund: \$1,427.72

Building Fund: \$50.00

Attendance: 30

Noisy Can: \$16.72

Loose: \$1.00

Sunday, June 16, 2024

Basement Rental: \$160.00

Regular: \$2,130.00

Copies: \$2.00

Total General Fund: \$2,308.55

Building Fund/Roof: \$90.00

Attendance: 26

Noisy Can: \$15.55

Loose: \$1.00

Sunday, June 23, 2024

Loose: \$6.00

Regular: \$665.00

Total General Fund: \$713.04

Building/Roof: \$90.00

Building/Solar: \$15.00 IMO Marilyn Knutsen

Memorial: \$95.00 IMO Marilyn Knutsen

Attendance: 43

Noisy Can: \$42.04



Prayer List

Requested: Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Don Erickson, Ken Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Lynzee Henrikson-Makowski, Karen Kohls, Ardell Fortune, Inez Oakland, Julie Albertson, Danice Cummings, Larry Kohls, Karen Kerner, Terry Cummings, Sarah Updegraff-Murray, Norma Starks (Sister of Al Amundson).

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, Major Stephanie Wilkins, Kennedy White.



July 2024 – God’s Work, Our Hands

It’s nearly that time of year again – God’s Work, Our Hands! Though the official day is in September, it’s not too late to plan how your congregation can engage with GWOH Day.

One of the best ways to practice GWOH is through volunteering. At LSI, we have volunteer opportunities for individuals of nearly every age, ability, and schedule. Additionally, we offer group volunteer projects – the perfect opportunity for this upcoming day of service.

If you are interested in volunteering with LSI for God’s Work, Our Hands, talk to your pastor and have them contact philanthropy@LSIowa.org

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI’s Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at 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 and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – JULY 2024



Please consider supporting our youth in this event.

Our Back to School event is August 7, 2024 from 9am to 5pm. We **NEED** your help to make this successful! Last year we filled 335 backpacks. We have seen a steady increase of need in the area so we are planning to fill around 350 backpacks this year. Families are struggling to make ends meet and this is one area we can alleviate the burden, The best way to invest in a child's future is to give them the "tools" to succeed.

All donations can be sent to the SOTH office.

If you would prefer me to shop for you and would like to send a monetary donation, please send the support to:

PO Box 36, St. Olaf, IA 52072.

We will be accepting physical donation drop-offs from July 15- August 5 during normal business hours.

Clothing Center Updates:

Our thrift store is getting full of donations for the summer season. The selections are very nice with some name brand items. We continue to accept donations for the current season only. Long sleeve and winter items will be accepted in October. I will continue the process of scheduling donations as this allows the time to sort items and keep the inventory rotated. I will ask what day you want to donate and how much you are donating when you call. You will be able to drop off during business hours on the day you schedule. If I do not have your donation scheduled, you may not be able to drop your items off.

Shepherd Conference News:

We would like to congratulate Pastor Gary Hatcher, St. Paul Garnavillo, on his anniversary of his ordination on 7/24/77 (47 years).

We would also like to congratulate the following Vicars who have graduated from Wartberg Seminary on May 12th, 2024



Brittany Barkus
One in Faith
Parish
Littleport,
Volga
Arlington
Strawberry Point



Pastor Micheal Erickson
West Clermont,
Clermont
Ordained:
2/3/2024



Jeremy Wolfe
St. John Luana
and
Farmersburg

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:

Back to School:
August 7th
9am-5pm

***** Referral is required to participate**

*Any event may be subject to change

Shepherd of the Hills:

Heather Hageman
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Business Hours: Monday-Friday
9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm



July Worship Schedule


July 7 @ 10am- 175th
Ecumenical Worship in the
Park


July 14-Church (Holy
Communion)


July 21- Park

July 28- Church (Holy
Communion)



 **Noisy Can Offering** for 3rd 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.

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

 **PARADE PARTICIPANT WANTED.** West Clermont is entering a float for the 175th Clermont Celebration and **we need people to hand out candy and trinkets and some to ride on the float.** Please contact the office if you would like to participate. All ages!



CANDY DONATIONS FOR PARADE. We would like to hand out candy at the 175th parade and are looking for donations from you. All candy must be individually wrapped (no chocolate- it melts) Donations can be dropped off in the church office.



ECUMENICAL CHOIR FOR JULY 7TH. On July 7th, we will be hosting the Ecumenical Worship in the Park for the 175th Clermont Celebration. There will be a choir that day. If you would like to be a part of this, **THERE IS PRACTICE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 30TH @ CHURCH BEGINNING AT 4PM.**



Senior Game Day is on Wed., July 10th & July 24th from 2-4pm. Come join us for some snacks and fun! All are welcome!

Vacation Bible School This year our partner, St. Peter's will be holding VBS with their cluster congregations so we have decided to not have VBS this year and encourage you to seek options available in our area.