



## West Clermont Lutheran Church

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Clermont, IA 52135  
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Website: [www.westclermontlutheranchurch.com](http://www.westclermontlutheranchurch.com)

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

**Council President**  
*Randy Wiedenhoff*  
Email: [randyfirechief7@gmail.com](mailto:randyfirechief7@gmail.com)  
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**Pastor**  
*Mike Erickson*  
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## November 2024 Newsletter



### *From Pastor Mike:*

It's hard to believe that it is November already. Where did the year go?

As you already know from the advertisements on television, it is election time. While many people disagree on who is the right choice, it is a blessing that we live in a country where we can have this debate. The ELCA encourages respectful debates and conversations in order to understand opposing viewpoints without media or political spin. This reflects our calling to live out Christ's love through understanding and reconciliation. Instead of praying for a particular candidate's success in public worship, we should pray for discernment and readiness to be agents of God's love, healing, justice, and reconciliation—no matter who wins. We are called to be both a “prophetic presence” and a “reconciling and healing presence” in the world, both denouncing sin and mediating conflicts to serve the common good. No matter who wins, God equips us to heal divisions and move forward in unity with love for our neighbor doing God's work in our community.

November is also the month that we celebrate Thanksgiving. I give thanks to God for my opportunity here at West Clermont. In Ephesians 5:20, it says “*Give thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*” As Paul instructs the Ephesians, we are charged with: Giving thanks always for all things unto God. As Christians, we have been given a very good deal by our God. No matter our earthly lot, we are saved by the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. He only asks that we actively acknowledge that fact in prayer and thanksgiving and in sharing his love with our neighbors.

God grant you and your family a warm and blessed Thanksgiving as we gather joyfully with family, friends, and God.

Peace,  
*Pastor Mike*

## West Clermont Lutheran Church Council Meeting –October 2, 2024

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

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

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

Sept minutes read. Motion made Tasha to approve the minutes. Diane second, motion carried.

**Treasurer report:** All routine receipts for September. \$908 noisy can going to Sarah Updegraff-Murray. Noisy can for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter will go to Cindy Thias. Rodney made a motion to move \$2,000 from property maintenance to general fund. Kenny second, motion carried. Brittany made motion to approve treasurer report. Isaiah second, motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Mike has a busy month with attending fall conference. First communion will be held this coming Sunday with 9 communicants. Will have a few continuing education webinars, and baptism this month.

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

- A. Bench for Khaki Nelson:** Memorial Funds -order has been placed and in the works of being made.
- B. Sidewalk snow removal:** Jim Matt agreed to do the snow removal this year.
- C. Stewardship Drive:** Letter has been drafted to be mailed out to the congregation members. Randy will give a temple talk to express the financial help the church needs. Letter will be in the bulletin this Sunday for those present. We will reach other members via email, mailing a copy, and putting on our Facebook page.

### **New Business:**

- A. Trunk or Treat Thurs Oct 31<sup>st</sup>**-Community Club would like to have it at the church inside again since it worked so well last year and it's been so cold the last few Halloween nights. Isaiah made a motion to have trunk or treat held in the basement of the church. Brittany second, motion carried.
- B. Giving Tree.** How many families would we like to sponsor this year as we continue to work with Parent Share and Support. Rodney made a motion to support 2 families for the giving tree. Diane second, motion carried.

### **Announcements & Important Dates**

- A. Newsletter items** are due by Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.
- B. Fall Ham Ball Dinner** is Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am-2pm. Freewill offering. Silent Auction. Currently signing up workers and pie bakers.
- C. Copper Creek Service** is Wed., October 9<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30am.
- D. SOTH Hog Roast** is Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> in St. Olaf.
- E. Fourth Quarter Noisy** is going to Cindy Thias who is battling cancer.
- F. Pr. Liz Bell** from the Synod will be at the **February 2025 Council Meeting**.
- G. CCLI License** was renewed.
- H. Pictorial Committee** Photo shoot taking place October 1-2 from 2-8:30pm each day.
- I. Senior Fun Day** is October 9<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm.
- J. EWALU Women's Circle Trip** is Wed., Oct.23<sup>rd</sup>. Leaving from church @ 9:15am.
- K. Luther League** will meet Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm to plan for Trunk or Treat. Mexican.
- L. WELCA Rummage, Bake and Produce Sale** made \$1200.00
- M. 1<sup>st</sup> Communion** is on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Closing Prayer/Adjourn**

Motion made Kenny by to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. second, Tasha motion carried. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.



## WELCA Board Minutes, October 2, 2024

WELCA Board met on October 2, 2024 @ 1:03 pm. Those attending were: Linda Hyde, June Swenson, Deb Guyer, Mae Becker, and Marcia Wiedenhoff.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Checking balance: \$4,094.35. Savings balance: \$3,225.02. Quilting fund: \$418.05.  
Motion to approve: Linda/Mae/Carried

### **Old Business**

1. **Meeting at EWALU:** All 3 circles will hold a joint meeting October 23, 2024 at EWALU. Depart from the church at 9:15. Planned for the day are a tour, lunch and a Bible study. Arlene Davison is the host and has made the arrangements. WELCA will pay the \$50 fee and the cost of the lunch (\$11.50) for everyone going. Contact Deb Jacobsen in the office if you plan to go.
2. **Rummage/Bake Sale:** Set for Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 - 6:00pm and Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> 9:00 - Noon. Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> after church. Raised \$1,200.
3. **GHM "2024 Welcome Kit" Challenge:** This will be done with in the circles. Sheets listing items needed was given to each circle and they can choose to participate if they wish. Kits will be gathered and distributed to LSI for relocated families. Ongoing.
4. **Shepherd of the Hill Hog Roast:** October 6<sup>th</sup>. 4:00 - 7:00pm. St. Olaf \* Online Quilt Auction will start September 16 ( Facebook Page) until midnight October 5. In-Person bidding will continue October 6, 4:00 - 6:00. Amy Cummings and Marcia W will be assisting with the Quilt Auction. Marcia and Linda will make a pie. Mae will make cookies and June will make bars. Marcia will deliver.
5. **Little Flock Cluster B Fall Gathering:** Little Flock Cluster B Fall Gathering: Plentiful, Beautiful Harvest October 26 at First Lutheran Church in McGregor. In-Kind donations (non-perishables for Clayton County Food Shelf. Offering: checks payable to Women of the NEIA Synod with Cluster B in the memo. (1/2 to Clayton County Food Shelf)(1/2 to Women of the ELCA) Lunch \$5. RSVP by October 9 to Donna Staples 563-543-7663 or donnastaples58@gmail.com. Marcia is planning to attend. Offering \$50 June/Linda/carried
6. **LWR Truck:** November 2. Marcia will deliver.
7. **Trunk or Treat:** WCLC was asked to host. On council agenda for October 2 meeting. It was approved last meeting for Marcia to take care of treats.

### **New Business:**

1. **Correspondence:** Star
2. **Thank Offering:** November 24
3. **Ham Ball Dinner:** October 27. No coffee hour.
4. **Lutheran Disaster Relief:** June made a motion to donate \$100 to this cause to help flood victims of Storm Helene. Give through Thrivent and they will match \$1 to every \$2. June/Mae/Carried

**Sunday Coffee Schedule:** October – Sarah. November – Mary. December – Ruth.

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

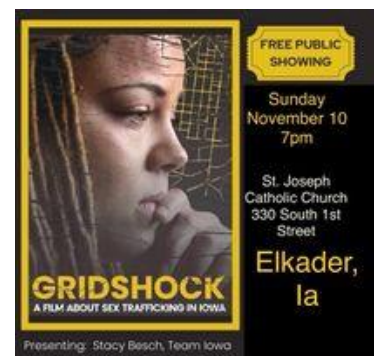
**Altar Duties:** (September thru December): Sarah

**Motion to Adjourn:** 1:25pm Mae /June/ Carried

**Closing:** The Lord's Prayer

**Next Meeting:** November 6, 2024 @ 1:00pm

Submitted: *Marcia Wiedenhoff*, Board President/Secretary





# November, 2024

DATE	READER	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION	BREAD
11/3*	Kathy Wander	Kyla Massman	<i>Need volunteer</i>	Linda Hyde
11/10	Sarah Dean	Jared Dean		
11/17	Brailyn Dirksen	Josh Dirksen		
11/24*	Mark Nelson	Avery Lerch	Denise Nelson	Denise Nelson
11/27*	Mark Erickson	Klay Monteith	Marcia Wiedenhoff	Marcia Wiedenhoff

## November Ushers: Lee West, Al Amundson, and Vernon Oakland



11/02 Nelson Denise	11/06 Rowland Everett	11/06 Wiedenhoff Randy
11/07 Wagner Rodney	11/09 Anderson Jerry	11/11 Bassett Natalie
11/11 Cummings Sandra	11/12 Amundson Tyler	11/14 Phillips Juniper
11/16 Anderson Shane	11/16 Steffens Delainee	11/16 West Lee
11/17 Dirksen Brailyn	11/18 Miller David	11/19 Lerch Loxley
11/21 Erickson Mike	11/22 West Logan	11/25 Shekleton Jennifer
11/26 Becker Terry	11/28 Becker Sam	11/28 Donnelly Alaina



## Offerings: September 29, 2024 – October 27, 2024

### Sunday, September 29, 2024

Copies: \$3.25

Loose: \$52.00

**Total General Fund: \$838.30**

Building/Roof: \$90.00

### Attendance: 50

Basement Rental: \$160.00

Regular: \$585.00

Noisy Can: \$38.05

### Sunday, October 6, 2024

Noisy Can: \$55.20

Flow Through: \$100.00

**Total General Fund: \$1,218.20**

Building/Roof: \$165.00 (reg.\$90/\$25 IMO Millard Nelson) / Solar: \$50.00(IMO Millard Nelson)

Memorial Fund: \$820.00 (IMO Millard Nelson-\$10 to youth).

### Attendance: 99

Loose: \$133.00

Regular: \$930.00

### Sunday, October 13, 2024

Loose: \$2,051.00

**Total General Fund: \$8,074.56**

Building Fund: \$50.00

Memorial Fund: \$50.00 IMO Millard Nelson

### Attendance: 70

Noisy Can: \$58.56

Regular: \$5,965.00

### Sunday, October 20, 2024

Loose: \$134.00

Regular: \$1,420.00

**Total General Fund: \$33,115.14**

Bldg/Roof: \$180.00

### Attendance: 81

Noisy Can: \$93.50

Hamball: \$500.00

Scholarship Fund (Millard Nelson): \$30,967.64

### Sunday, October 27, 2024

Loose: \$6.00

Hamball: Dinner: \$3,464.00/Auction: \$605.00 = \$4,069.00 (Deposit 2)

**Total General Fund: \$4,900.59**

### Attendance: 36

Noisy Can: \$50.59

Regular: \$775.00 = Deposit 1: \$831.59

Memorial Fund: \$30.00 IMO Millard Nelson

## IMO stands for "In Memory Of"



### November 2024: National Adoption Month

November is National Adoption Month! Lutheran Services in Iowa has served adoptive and foster families for decades, helping to ensure every child has a safe and loving home. For over a year, we joined with Four Oaks Foster and Adoption Services to better serve the families of Iowa. As a subcontractor, we continue to train and support foster, adoptive, and kin families in the western side of the state. Our team has served over 700 families through assistance during the licensing process and by providing on-going support and development in the past fiscal year.

To learn more about our Foster Care and Adoption services, please visit [www.lsiowa.org/foster-care-adoption](http://www.lsiowa.org/foster-care-adoption).

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.

*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).*



### Congratulations to our First Communicants

Jared Dean	Joshua Dirksen	Celia Klemp
Avery Lerch	Kylah Massman	Klay Monteith
Ayva Nelson	Kali Nelson	Delainee Steffens



*May God's blessing be upon **Ila Darlene Turner**, daughter of Katlyn Guyer & Kory Turner who was baptized 10/20/24. Sponsors for Ila are Anna & Kory Cook.*



### Operation Christmas Child Gift List



**“Wow Gift”**- Doll • Soccer ball & pump • Stuffed animal • Musical instrument • Large toy truck or car • hobby kit • Other large toy

**Personal Care Items**- Comb or brush • Toothbrush • Washcloth • Fun adhesive bandages • Eating utensils • Nail clipper and file

**School Items**- Pencils and sharpener • Pencil case • Erasers • Pens • Crayons • Markers • Notebooks • Index cards • Calculator • Scissors • Ruler • Glue stick • Small adhesive tape

**Clothing and Accessories**- Clothing and undergarments • Flip-flops or shoes • Cold weather items • Sunglasses • Bags, backpacks, or purses • Hair accessories • Hats • Wristwatch or jewelry • Flashlight

**Craft and Activities**- Puzzles • Binoculars • Compass • Chalkboard and chalk • Fishing kit • Jump rope • Coloring books or pads • Dry watercolor set • Playdough • Stickers • Craft kits or colorful rope/twine • Books or picture books

**Toys** - Ball • Frisbee® • Building blocks • Finger puppets • Slinky® • Yo-yo • Magnets • Kaleidoscope • Toy cars • Interactive toys • Other small toys and figures

**DO NOT INCLUDE** • Food, candy, or gum • Toothpaste • Used or damaged items • Scary or war-related items • Wearable traditional camouflage • Seeds or organic matter • Liquids • Medication • Money • Breakable items • Matches, fire starters, or aerosols • Knife, saw, or razor blades

# Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

## NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2024



*WOW! The outpouring of support we received from the Annual Hog Roast was amazing. We had a total of 467 meals served (199 in take-outs). This was up from last year's 428! We had 6 roasters of meat, 4 of beans and 5 of cheesy potatoes PLUS we had 16 gallons of salads and so many superb desserts brought in! Thank you to the football players, all who helped serve, cleaned and helped in any way. Special thanks to the area WELCA women who donated the quilts and desserts PLUS the generous people who donated items for our silent auction. We generated a lot of funds to help those in need, which is the foundation of our mission. I am amazed how supportive our community has been for Shepherd of the Hills over the years.*

*I guess that is why we have been in operation for 56 years! Now I can concentrate on my next project, Christmas for Kids...*

*This event is scheduled for December 18-19<sup>th</sup>. We will be setting up the auditorium December 12-13. Doors will be open from 9-4 both days for churches, businesses and public to drop off their donations. If you cannot make it on those dates, donations can be dropped off during business hours at the office. If your church, business or youth group would like to do a fundraiser to help collect toys, please reach out to me and let me know. The local Dollar Generals are partnering with us to collect toys for the holiday shop. (Date to be determined) Volunteers are needed for these events so if you want to be involved, please reach out to me.*

*Thank you for supporting our events and projects. We could not do this without YOU!*

### **Clothing Center Updates:**

*Our "season" transition is completed. We will be accepting fall/winter items only. Décor for Christmas can be dropped off after Thanksgiving. Please make sure all donations are free from stains, tares, holes and that they work as they should. Electrical items should be tested prior to bringing them in. Appointments are necessary in order to control the flow of drop-offs. This allows us to schedule volunteers, rotate inventory and reserve a day to accept your donation without getting too full. Our goal is to keep the store organized, clean and safe for everyone. We appreciate all of the donations we have received. It helps those in need plus it is affordable for our shoppers. You can't afford not to shop when the price is \$1.00 for most all items.*

### **Shepherd Conference News:**

*We would like to congratulate Pastor Frank Johnson from EWALU on the anniversary of his ordination on 11-4-2011.*

*I will be working on the Conference Assembly paperwork. If you are wanting to serve on the SOTH board, we will have openings for secretary (2 yr term) property (2 yr term) and the Synod Representative (3 yr term). If you have an interest in joining the board, please let me know by January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025.*

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:**

**Christmas for Kids  
December 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup>**

**Conference Assembly  
February 16th (Tentative)  
St. Paul, Volga**

\*Any event may be subject to change

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

Heather Hageman  
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Fax: 563-783-2428

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



## Prayer List

**Requested:** Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Don Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Karen Kohls, Ardell Fortune, Julie Albertson, Danice Cummings, Larry Kohls, Terry Cummings, Sarah Updegraff-Murray, Eric Clubb, Bill and Cindy Thias.

**Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins:** Betty Erickson, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Judy Nelson, Madonna Stumme, Doris Guyer.

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



**Noisy Can Offering** for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter (October-December) will go to Cindy Thias who is battling cancer.

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



**Senior Game Day** is on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>, from 2-4pm. Come join us for some snacks and fun! All are welcome!



**Luther League** will meet on Wed., Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30pm to assist the Sunday School youth with filling boxes for Operation Christmas Child! Don't want to miss this one!

**QUILTING.** Quilters meet every Tuesday, beginning @ 9am. All are welcome! Bring a friend! The more the merrier! Give it a try! If you can tie a knot, we want you!



**CONFIRMATION CLASS** is on Wednesdays right after school (2:30ish) until 3:30pm.

**Umbrellas** are now available in the downstairs entry for those days that are rainy, to help get you to and from your vehicle. This is a "**Good Samaritan Project**" meaning that we do for each other. If you see someone who may need an umbrella and you can help, please do so. We will not have anyone designated for this, so it is up to all of us to help each other on rainy days.

**Thrivent Thrivent Cards.** The church is looking for Thrivent Cards for upcoming events in October, November, and December. If you have cards to use, please contact the office for the events they can be used for. (Operation Christmas Child-2, Giving Tree-1, Spaghetti Dinner-2, etc.).



We are now collecting items for **Operation Christmas Child**. Items may be dropped off in the office. Our youth will pack the boxes on November 20<sup>th</sup>. See list.

**NORWEGIAN Meatball Dinner** @ Elgin Lutheran is Sunday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11am-12:30pm (or until gone). Drive thru only. Free will offering. Serving: Norwegian meatballs, mashed potatoes, salad, corn, buns & Norwegian delicacies.



**Taste of St. Peter's** is Sat., Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:30am-1pm. \$10-Adults/\$5 Kids (10 & under). Proceeds to benefit the parking lot project. Recipes will be provided. Come sample some family favorites for the upcoming holidays.



**Daylight Savings.** Don't forget to turn your clocks back Sat., November 2<sup>nd</sup>.



**Soups On! Highland Lutheran Church Fall Soup Luncheon** is Sun, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> from 11am-1pm @ the Elgin Legion. Free will donation. Serving: chili, vegetable beef soup, chicken noodle soup, grilled cheese sandwiches, crackers, bars and beverage. Dine in or carry out. There is also a Silent Auction at the event.



**Wagner's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fellowship** is Sunday, November 10, following worship. Come celebrate with Rodney and Diane! Fellowship will be downstairs in the dining room.



**St. Paul Lutheran in Monona Annual Fall Festival Dinner** is Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:45am-12:45pm. Serving: Roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, homemade bread, coleslaw, asst. pies, and beverage. Free will offering. Dine in or carry out.



**St. Olaf American Legion Post 388 Breakfast** is on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 8am-1pm @ the St. Olaf Community Center. Serving: breakfast casseroles, danishes, cinnamon rolls, and drink. Free will donation. Silent Auction.



**Handcrafted Christmas Craft Show** is Saturday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, from 8am-2pm @ the Clermont Opera House.



**Office Closed** on Thurs., Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> and Fri., Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



**Christmas Giving Tree** will be up by Sun., Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>. We are sponsoring 2 families again this year!



**WELCA Thankoffering** is Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, during worship.



**SOTH Christmas for Kids** is Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> 1& 19<sup>th</sup> @ St. Olaf Auditorium. If your family needs a little help this Christmas and would like to receive gifts, a referral is needed. For questions, call the SOTH office @ 563-783-2409. They are in need of volunteers for the event. Call same number to help.



**Decorah Performing Arts Boosters 39<sup>th</sup> Holiday Craft and Bake Sale** is Sat., Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 9am-4pm at Decorah High School.

