



West Clermont Lutheran Church

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Office Hours: Monday thru Friday
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October 2024 Newsletter



From Pastor Mike:

October is here already. Where did the year go? School has been in session for over a month now. Confirmation has been going for a month now. Sports are in full swing. Harvest is starting. Everyone is so busy.

We start out the month on October 1 and 2 with pictures for our new church directory. On October 6, we will have First Communion for our 5th graders. Also on October 6, there is a Hog Roast at Shepherd of the Hills to benefit their Crisis Fund. I will be gone for a few days from after church on October 13 to October 15 for the Synod's Fall Theological Conference. Later in the month on October 27, we will have our Ham Ball Fundraiser here at West Clermont.

October 27 this year is also Reformation Day. When I think of the Reformation, I think of Martin Luther nailing the 95 Theses on the door of Wittenberg Castle. Martin Luther's personal struggles with sin and redemption led to the most important discovery: **Justification Through Faith Alone**. Often, in Bible Studies or in Confirmation Class, the more we talk about the law and sin, the more we discover how guilty we are of breaking the law. Paul describes it most succinctly in Romans 3:23, "...all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God." We have all sinned and need to be justified or made right with God. This would be extremely terrifying if it were not for the Gospel. The Good News of the Gospel is that we do not have to do anything on our own. The grace of God has already justified us by the Holy Spirit stirring up faith within us to believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sins. The Good News can be summed up in John 3:16-17, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Without the Gospel, we would be lost because there is nothing that we can do on our own to atone for our sin. There is no amount of good works that could satisfy our inability to follow the law. Only through faith in Christ are we saved. "But the faith that justifies is not only a knowledge of history; it is to

assent to the promise of God, in which forgiveness of sins and justification are bestowed freely on account of Christ” (Book of Concord 128). Justifying faith has three parts: the promise, the price (free), and the atoning sacrifice of Christ. “The promise is received by faith; the word “free” excludes our merits and means that the blessing is offered only through mercy; the merits of Christ are the payment because there must be some definite atoning sacrifice for our sins” (Book of Concord 128-129).

What does that mean for us today? It means that no matter what we have done or failed to do, God loves us so much that Jesus died on the cross to save us from that sin. Without any merit of our own, Jesus has made us right with God. We no longer have to worry because our faith in Jesus has justified us. Amen.



West Clermont Lutheran Church Council Meeting –September 4, 2024

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

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

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

August minutes read. Motion made by Kenny to approve the minutes. Diane second, motion carried.

Treasurer report: All routine receipts for August. Motion made by Wendy to approve treasurer report. Kenny second, motion carried. Rodney made motion to move \$2,000 from property maintenance to general fund. Diane second, motion carried.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor vacation days- 8 days of Monday, Sept 16- Monday Sept. 23rd. Pulpit supply will be Pastor David Coffin service on Sunday, Sept. 22nd for communion Sunday. First call retreat will be held in September. Pastor is having healing service after service September 29th. Outside rain gutter issues- Pastor pointed out spots outside have some water staining the bricks.

Old Business/Committee Reports:

A. **Constitutional Revisions:** Deb is working on a copy of the constitution that can be adapted to allow changes. Continue to table revisions.

B. **Umbrellas in downstairs entry:** 4 umbrellas and holder purchased available for use downstairs.

New Business:

A. **Bench for Khaki Nelson:** Kyle made motion to purchase outside bench in memory of William and Khaki Nelson. Wendy second, motion carried.

B. **Pr. Liz Bell from the Synod will be at the February Council Meeting.**

C. **CCLI Renewal.** \$249.00 for the year. License that allows to play electronic music live on Facebook live. Motion made by Tasha to purchase license. Kenny second, motion carried.

D. **Snow Removal-** Dillion has represented a bid for flat rate fee per month or pay per snow. New service added is ice control for 2024-2025. Motion made by Rodney to pay for snow removal & ice control per event. Wendy second, motion carried.

a. **Sidewalk snow removal.** Time’s up, we need to find someone for this job. Will touch base with Jim Matt and table this for next meeting.

E. **Stewardship Drive:** Will work on letter for stewardship drive.

Announcements & Important Dates

A. **Newsletter items** are due by Wednesday, September 25th.

B. **Copper Creek Service** is Wed., September 11th @ 10:30am.

C. **Pictorial Committee** Currently signing up families online and after services at church. Photo shoot to take place October 1-2 from 2-8:30pm each day. Only have about 36 signed up.

D. **Senior Fun Day** is September 11th & 25th from 2-4pm.

- E. **Sunday School** begins Sunday, September 8th.
- F. **Confirmation** begins Wednesday, September 11th. **Parent Mtg.** is that same day @ 6:30pm.
- G. **Bible Presentation** is scheduled for Sunday, September 15th.
- H. **Wedding** of Jenna Siebrecht & Nick Stortz is Saturday, September 14th.
- I. **Luther League** begins Wednesday, September 18th @ 6:30pm. TJ Pizza.
- J. **WELCA Rummage, Bake and Produce Sale** is Fri., Sept. 20-2-6pm. Sat., Sept. 21-9am-Noon and Sunday after service.
- K. **Healing Service** on Sunday, September 29th.
- L. **1st Communion Class** is on Sunday, September 29th, following service.
- M. **Quilting** resumes on September 10th @ 9am.

Closing Prayer/Adjourn

Motion made Tasha by to adjourn at 6:54 p.m. Kyle second, motion carried. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.



WELCA Board Minutes, September 4, 2024

WELCA Board met on September 4, 2024 @ 1:00 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: \$3,082.61; Savings balance: \$3,224.36; Quilting fund: \$418.05

Motion to approve: Mae/Linda /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 9:15am. Planned for the day are a tour, lunch, and a Bible study. Arlene Davison is the hostess and has made the arrangements. WELCA will pay the \$50 fee and the cost of the lunch (\$11.50) for everyone going. June / Mae / Carried
2. **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! Marcia will make the signs to put out and June will work with Deb Jacobsen to do advertising.
3. **GHM "2024 Welcome Kit" Challenge:** This will be done within 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.
4. **Shepherd of the Hill Hog Roast:** October 6th. 4:00 - 7:00 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.
5. **LWR Truck:** November 1

New Business:

1. **Correspondence:** Global Health Ministries and LSI
2. **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.

3. **SOTH Hog Roast:** Asking for 2 pies and 2 other treats. Marcia and Linda will make the pies. Mae and June will bring cookies, bars, or a cake. Marcia will deliver to St. Olaf.
4. **Trick or Treat:** WELCA will participate again this year. Will discuss more next month. Linda/Deb/Carried
5. **Good Sam October Birthdays:** Sarah Circle has this project.
6. **Sunday school Rally:** Ruth Circle in charge.
7. **EWALU Quilt Auction:** Giving \$100 instead of sending a quilt. June / Mae
8. **Extra vases:** The extra vases sitting around in cupboards have been recycled by taking them to a flower shop to re-use.

Sunday coffee Schedule: October - Sarah November - Mary December - Ruth

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

Altar Duties: (September, October, November and December): Sarah

Motion to Adjourn: 1:29pm June / Mae / Carried

Closing: The Lord's Prayer **Next Meeting:** October 2, 2024 @ 1:00pm

Submitted: *Marcia Wiedenhoff*, Board President/Secretary



October, 2024

DATE	READER	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION	BREAD
10/6*	Avery Donnelly	Brailyn Dirksen	Wendy Steffens	Betty Helgerson
10/13	Natalie Bassett	Ryan Dean		
10/20	Karen Miller	Keegan Klemp		
10/27*	Teagan Schrader	Sutton Schrader	Kayleen Schrader	Deb Jacobsen

October Ushers: Mike Helgerson, Dean Hyde, and Roger Berg



10/01 Dirksen Joshua	10/05 Ealey Brittany	10/05 Monteith Brandi
10/07 Dinan Holli	10/07 Swenson Marti	10/09 Guyer Douglas
10/10 Kerner Anthony	10/13 Dean Taylor	10/15 Helgerson Betty
10/16 Miller Kjerstin	10/17 Berg Carol	10/17 Stortz Jenna
10/19 Guyer Ellen	10/19 Martin-Wilker Aviel	10/20 Corbin Isaiah
10/21 Zimmer David	10/24 Helgerson Kaylin	10/24 Noggle Cherokee
10/25 Hoeck Ralph	10/25 Monteith Klay	10/26 Guyer Doris



Offerings: September 1, 2024 thru September 22, 2024

Sunday, September 1, 2024

Loose: \$93.00

Regular: \$640.00

Total General Fund: \$762.49

Roof / Bldg: \$90.00

Memorial Fund: \$50.00-IMO Ruth Amundson

Attendance: 44

Noisy Can: \$29.49

Sunday, September 8, 2024

Loose: \$102.00

Regular: \$1,165.00

Total General Fund: \$1,309.29

Building: \$50.00

Attendance: 66

Noisy Can: \$41.29

We are now collecting items for Operation Christmas Child. These may be dropped off in the office.

Our youth will pack the boxes on November 20th.

Sunday, September 15, 2024

Flow Thru: \$45.00

Regular: \$665.00

Total General Fund: \$814.49

Bldg. fund / roof: \$180.00

Attendance: 53

Loose: \$64.00

Noisy Can: \$40.49



Sunday, September 22, 2024

Loose: \$5.00

Regular: \$3,410.00

Total General Fund: \$3,951.37

Memorial Fund: \$90.00 IMO Ruth Amundson (\$25-Solar/\$65-fund)

Attendance: 53

Noisy Can: \$536.37



October 2024: Now through December 31, Double your Donation!

Consider giving a gift to Lutheran Services in Iowa to support Iowans from all walks of life. Until the end of December, all donations will be doubled! A handful of generous donors agreed to match donations up to \$80,000. Increase your impact by donating today at LSIowa.org/donate.

You may be able to increase your gift even more! See if your employer has a matching gift program.

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



Sunday School Teachers needed. They really need your help. If you would be available at all (even for a few Sundays), please contact Kayleen Schrader @ 563-380-9097.



Congratulations & Blessings to Nick & Jenna (Siebrecht) Stortz who were married at West Clermont on Saturday, September 14th.



Congratulations to Maryn Monteith and Brecken Massman who received Bibles on Sunday, September 15th.

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2024



We served 321 children with new backpacks filled with supplies for school. Thank you for your donations to this project. We had some pretty excited kids returning to school in style!

Our annual Hog Roast is October 6th from 4-7pm. We will be serving pork sandwiches, baked beans, cheesy potatoes, salads, deserts and drinks. All proceeds (free-will donations) will be supporting our crisis fund for families in need of extra help with utilities/rent.

*** If you have an extra 18-22 quart roaster you are not using (in great condition) or if you want to purchase one, we are looking to add some to our inventory so we do not have to borrow every year.***

Our quilt auction is a new addition to our Hog Roast this year. The online auction started September 15th with pictures, quilt information and opening bids listed on our FACEBOOK page. From there, people can bid using the comment section of the post. Online bidding will close at 11:59 pm October 5th. We will then begin in person bidding at the Hog Roast the next day from 4-6pm. At 6 pm we will announce the winning bids. There will be other items at the "in-person" bidding so please plan on attending and supporting SOTH and our mission to help others in need!

Clothing Center Updates:

We are currently transitioning into the fall/winter season at the thrift store. We will not be accepting the Spring/summer items until March. Also, all Christmas décor will not be accepted until November. Our space is limited so we are unable to store those items that are not in season. Please keep these gentle reminders in mind when you donate. Thank you for having patience and understanding of the policies, as we want to keep things organized and safe for all shoppers.

Shepherd Conference News:

Pastor Lyn Noel, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Postville, is celebrating his ordination anniversary on 10/20/13. Pastor Katherine Longtin Johnson, Bethany Lutheran and Emmanuel Lutheran, is celebrating her ordination anniversary on 10/19/14.

Congratulations Pastor Lyn and Pastor Katherine!

We would also like to welcome Pastor Tyler Hoey to our Conference. He is the new pastor at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Garnavillo and Peace Lutheran Church in Clayton.

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 6th from 4-7pm

Christmas for Kids
December 18th -19th

*Any event may be subject to change

Shepherd of the Hills:

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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, Ashlyn Busta.


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


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

 Please keep the family & friends of Millard Nelson Jr. in your thoughts and prayers. Funeral services for Millard were Saturday, September 28th.




PLEASE NOTE: PR. MIKE'S OFFICE HOURS HAVE CHANGED. NOW IN THE OFFICE ON TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS FROM 10AM-NOON.

 **Noisy Can Offering** for 4th 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 Oct. 9th, from 2-4pm. Come join us for some snacks and fun! All are welcome!



Youth Ministry **Luther League** will meet on Wed., Oct. 16th @ 6:30pm. Luther League is for all youth from 7th-12th grade. The group will be planning for Trunk or Treat. The meal is Mexican.



QUILTING has begun! 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.



Shepherd of the Hills Annual Hog Roast is **Sunday, October 6th** from 4-7pm @ the St. Olaf Auditorium. Freewill Donation. Serving: pulled pork sandwiches, cheesy potatoes, baked beans, salads, desserts. All proceeds go to the Crisis Fund.




Quilt Auction **Shepherd of the Hills** is including a **Quilt Silent Auction** this year. Online bidding will begin on September 16th through October 5th @ 11:59pm. Follow us on our Facebook page for bidding opportunities. We will resume the bidding in person during the **Hog Roast** on Oct. 6th from 4-6! This is a great way to support our church's fine crafting skills plus benefit our Crisis Fund. The Crisis Fund helps families in need plus supports our projects we host for the area youth! Thank you for always supporting our mission!





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 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. (Fall Meal-3, Operation Christmas Child-3, Giving Tree-1, Spaghetti Dinner-2, Tie Blanket Project-1, etc.).

 **WCLC Fall Ham Ball Dinner** is Sunday, October 27th @ the Clermont Opera House from 10:30am-2pm. Free will offering. Serving: ham balls, cheesy potatoes, green beans and pie/bars. **Silent Auction** will take place during the dinner with bidding coming to an end at 2pm.

 **Pies for the Fall Dinner** There is a sign-up sheet for pies for the fall dinner located in the Fellowship area. There is also a **worker sign-up** sheet as well.

 **Lima Leaf Day** @ Lima Church is Sunday, October 6th. Lunch from 11am-1pm. Serving: pork loin sandwiches, maidrites, hotdogs, coleslaw, baked beans, pie, ice cream. Flea market-antiques-crafts-kid games-quilt raffle (@2pm).

 **LADIES:** All 3 **WELCA Circles** will hold a joint meeting October 23, 2024 at EWALU. All are welcome! We will depart from the church at 9:15am and carpool to the camp. Planned for the day are a tour, lunch, and a Bible study. Arlene Davison is the hostess and has made the arrangements. There is no cost to attend. Please sign up in the office as soon as possible, so we can send the number to EWALU for lunch.



Trunk or Treat is October 31st. Watch for more information in the bulletins!



Reformation Sunday is October 27th. Please wear red if possible to worship.



WELCA 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.