



West Clermont Lutheran Church

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September 2022 Newsletter



From Lay Minister Mike: The Fall is Coming

It's back to school time. That means school activities including sports, band, and chorus. That also means back to confirmation class, First Communion, Bible Presentations and Sunday School. Stay tuned to the calendar and bulletins for dates and times. While all of this fills up our schedules quickly, take time to give thanks for all that God has given each of us and give thanks that we are in a place where we can go to school and go to church in a relatively safe environment.

With September, we move into the start of harvest season. I know the farmers and agricultural workers are anxious to get started and bring the crops in when the weather is good. Although there is a lot to get done, please take your time and be careful. I enjoy seeing your faces out in the congregation on Sunday and would rather see you there instead of the hospital.

For those that are not involved in agriculture, you will still start to see big equipment moving down the road. Take a deep breath, take your time, give them room. It is better to be a few minutes late to an appointment than to be hurt because you are in a hurry.

I know I give a lot of "Mother Hen" advice, but that is because I care about each one of you. God cares about each one of you. I know you are all smart people, but I also know how quickly a good day can turn into a tragedy. Be careful out there, take care of your neighbor, and take care of yourself. May God bless you in the busy month ahead. Amen.

Peace,

Mike



West Clermont Lutheran Church Council Minutes - August 3, 2022

Present: Jed Dean, Brant Schrader, Tasha Massman, Wendy Steffens, Isaiah Ruckdashel, Gene Ruckdashel, Jesse Bassett, Mary Amundson, Amy Cummings and Pastor Mike Erickson

Jed called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Mike opened with prayer.

Motion was made by Brant for the June minutes. Wendy second, motion carried.

Motion made by Isaiah to approve agenda. Amy second, motion carried.

Kathy sent out the monthly financial statement for review prior to the meeting. Motion made by Amy to approve the Treasurer's Report. Jesse second, motion carried.

Pastor Report: In September Mike has a class on the 23-25th. Communion will be moved up a Sunday and 25th will be a mass with the kids leading the service. First Communion for the 5th graders will be held on September 18th. Mike will have a class with them prior to their big day. Mike will be taking vacation on August 14th-16th. He will be doing services on August 14th.

Paint project fundraising is underway. The quilt is on display and bids are all in, we are just awaiting the results. The July brunch raised \$678.00. The Dean's will cover dinner on August 7th.

Randy has been working with LetterWerks in Decorah on fixing the digital sign. Amy has made a motion to approve going ahead with the fix. Isaiah second, motion carried.

It has been requested that 3 large print All Creation Sing books are purchased. Tasha made a motion to purchase the 3 large print All Creation Sing books with funds from the music fund. Jesse second, motion carried.

It has been discovered that the boiler was leaking and Northeast Iowa Mechanical was called. They discovered some valves need to be replaced and some other maintenance repairs as well. Amy made a motion to have Northeast Iowa Mechanical fix the boiler and look at the outdoor spicket on the northeast corner of the building. Amy second, Motion carried.

The landscaping around our church has been brought up and it was discussed that it should be updated, now that the tuckpointing and blacktop is all done. We will be looking for this to be a service project for our whole congregation next spring. We will be seeking a committee to help plan this out.

LP contract has been received from Viafield for \$1.84/gallon for 4000 gallons. We currently have credits to apply to this contract. Amy made a motion to approve the LP contract with Viafield. Wendy second, motion carried.

Sunday School will be starting September 11th. First Communion training will be August 28th with First Communion on September 18th. Confirmation will be starting September 7th, and will continue to be held on Wednesdays after school.

Council will be seeking bids for insulation in the attic, which was recommended by Rhiele Painting, who will be painting the sanctuary.

Newsletter items are due to the office by August 22, 2022.

Next council meeting will be held **September 8th at 5:30 p.m.**

Motion made by Amy to adjourn at 6:27 pm. Wendy second, motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.



WELCA Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday August 3, 2022

WELCA Board met on August 3, 2022 @ 1:10pm. Those attending were; Mae Becker, June Swenson, Linda Hyde, Deb Guyer and Marcia Wiedenhoff.

Secretary’s Report: Minutes read individually. June / Mae / Carried

Treasurer’s Report: Reported by Deb Guyer. Checking balance: \$1192.13 Savings balance: \$2,766.59 Quilting fund: \$329.18. Bills: none. Motion to approve: Linda / June / Carried

Old Business:

- 1. Quilt Fundraiser:** Sealed bids ended July 31, 2022. Received 4 bids. \$600, \$850 and 2 bids of \$1200. The top 2 bids could resubmit a bid. Winner was Tom Joyner with a bid for \$1,300. He dropped off a check and the quilt is in his possession. Marcia announced the top bid during church on August 7.
- 2. Brunch held on the 1st Sunday of the Month:** Dean family will host for August. Ruth Circle is planning to host the 2nd Sunday in September. October will be Sarah Circle.
- 3. Garage Sale:** Sept. 16 - 2:00 to 6:00 / Sept. 17 - 9:00 to Noon. Marcia and Linda volunteered to set items out on the tables. Nicer items may be priced, otherwise, free will donations. Misc. items, baked goods, garden produce and etc. *No clothing accepted.* WCLC cookbooks and Cups will be set out also. Leftover items will be given to Clermont Community Club for the Santa Store and Fayette County Food Shelf. Misc. items can be brought to the church September 11 - 14. Baked goods and fresh produce will be taken on the mornings of the 16th and 17th.
- 4. September meeting:** No meeting
- 5. Circle offerings:** Offerings are usually turned in to WELCA treasurer semi- annually. This year, offerings will be submitted to WELCA treasurer immediately after December meetings.

New Business:

- 1. Correspondence:** Star, Global Health Ministries and Helping Services
- 2. Truck or Treat:** Discussed our participation again this year. Will decide at the October meeting.

Sunday coffee Schedule: August - Mary September - Ruth October – Sarah

Motion to Adjourn: 1:38pm Deb / Mae / Carried

Closing: The Lord’s Prayer

Next Meeting: **October 5, 2022 @ 1:00pm**

Submitted: *Marcia Wiedenhoff*, Board President/Secretary



September, 2022

DATE	READERS	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION
9/4*	Layne Kleppe	Taylor Dean	Jess Dean
9/11	Lois Miller	Lainy Donnelly	
9/18*	Natalie Bassett	Mark Erickson	Stacy Cummings
9/25	Sunday School	Peyton Dean	

September Ushers: Vernon Oakland and Jed & Peyton Dean

Be part of the campaign!



For 60 years, Cedar Lodge has served as the center of camp life at Ewalu.

But time has taken a toll, and we must revitalize this important building to ensure that every guest, camper and staff member feels welcome and included, for generations to come.

Time Takes a Toll

Now, more than ever, accessible and adequate facilities have an impact on who can experience camp and how we can serve them.

Today, Cedar Lodge, the beloved icon at the center of Ewalu, struggles to provide the hospitable welcome we want to share.

- People living with disabilities have to go to the Creation Center in order to find an **accessible restroom**.
- Stricter health codes and the increasing **dietary requirements** of Ewalu's guests tax the old kitchen equipment. Dining space can be confining and difficult to navigate with **large groups**.
- Conference and retreat leaders now require **internet access and other technologies** for programs.
- The **damp, musty conditions** of the lower level must be addressed for the health and well-being of the summer staff and all who use this space.

With Your Help...

Cedar Lodge will be redesigned & updated to provide:

Greater Hospitality

- **ADA-accessible restrooms** on the main floor
- **Additional space** for camp gatherings and worship
- **Air conditioning** for the hottest muggy Iowa days
- **Technology upgrades** for retreats and conferences

More efficient food service and dining experience

- **Remodeling and expanding the kitchen** for higher food production capacity and to better serve guests with food restrictions and allergies
- **Enhancing food preparation capabilities** for the Outpost, off-site and decentralized programming.
- **Redesigning the dining hall layout** to streamline serving and seat more people comfortably

Enhanced living conditions for summer staff

- A **new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system** designed to address the longtime moisture issues in the lower level
- **Remodeled restrooms** on the lower level and **new shower areas**
- A **remodeled break room** for summer staff to rest and rejuvenate during personal time

Improved environmental stewardship

- **Increased energy efficiency** and reduced costs for appliances and HVAC system

- New **solar energy collectors** to power the building (and potentially sell energy back to the electric company or share it with other nearby camp buildings)

Moving Forward Faithfully

Ewalu's Board of Directors has approved a campaign goal of \$2 million to make these necessary changes to Cedar Lodge.

Thanks to you, our faithful and generous stewards, **Ewalu has recently retired all of its long-term debt!** With this firm financial footing, all **board members have pledged already to the campaign and together have met 10% of the goal.**

Before we break ground, however, the Board has resolved to meet the following benchmarks:

- 90% of the \$2 million campaign goal in commitments
- 75% of the \$2 million campaign goal in funds received in-hand

The improvements to Cedar Lodge will promote Ewalu's sustainability. The benchmarks will help to ensure its financial stability.

With construction costs increasing due to both supply-chain issues and general inflation trends, the total cost of this project is in flux. If necessary, it will be designed in two phases. **We seek your support to allow us to proceed promptly.**

<https://ewalu.org/>




Prayer List

Requested: Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Bob Kress, Don Erickson, Ken Erickson, Jake Noggle, David Wiczorek, Karen Guyer, Karen Kohls, Lynzee Henrikson-Makowski, Ardell Fortune, Ruth Amundson, Inez Oakland, Jerry Erickson, Julie Albertson.

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins: Millard Nelson, Betty Erickson, Gail Herman, John Yauslin, Marilyn Knutsen, Marilyn Shipton, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett.

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

 Please keep the family and friends of Irene Mitts in your thoughts and prayers. Irene passed away on June 17th. Her visitation and funeral were held at West Clermont on Thursday, August 11th.



Mark your calendars!

WELCA is having a Freewill Rummage, Craft & Bake Sale

Friday, September 16th - 2:00 to 6:00pm

Saturday, September 17th - 9:00am to Noon.

****NOTE: Items for the sale may be brought in beginning, Wed.-Sept. 14th. Just want everyone to start thinking about items you might have to contribute.***

September 2022, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Direct Support Professionals Week

Do you know someone who is a caregiver to a loved one? It is a role that is both demanding and meaningful. During September's National Direct Support Professionals Week, we celebrate all the ways in which professional caregivers help children and adults achieve their goals and build meaningful lives.

One way LSI empowers Iowans is through our Services for People with Disabilities. From 24-hour support to occasional respite care, the LSI team lifts up Iowans with disabilities as they find the confidence and independence they need to thrive in their communities. Through our innovative Host Homes program, caregivers can also become mentors to individuals with disabilities, welcoming them into their private family home where they can receive more one-on-one care and encouragement.

If you would like to learn more about how you can support crucial programming like LSI Services for People with Disabilities, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI 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 LSI (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](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.Iowa).

A New Home for D.

D. wanted to become more connected to her community, while still ensuring she could receive the care she needed on a daily basis. Through LSI, D. has been able to enroll in the Host Homes program, which provides 24/7 care for individuals with disabilities and mental illness who thrive in a one-on-one setting instead of a busier group home environment.

D. was able to move into a private family home with her Host Homes mentor, Anita, and they have built a friendship and a shared social life. Anita is there to support D. as she works on her personal goals, while D. is still able to get the care she needs.

Currently, one of D.'s goals is to exercise and become more active in the community, so the duo enjoys shopping and walking around the local mall to stay active. Back at home, the two can work on skills – like hygiene and cooking – that make D. feel more independent and confident.


"I like helping D. and seeing her progress and growth in her daily living," Anita says. "When you and the person in your care begin living like a family, when they are able to trust you and open up, then you know you're getting somewhere."


**LSI does not identify the people we serve, except in well-vetted circumstances. The names and some personal details we use in this story have been changed.*





OFFICE
HOURS


Mike Erickson has **office hours** on Tuesdays and Thursdays from **9:30am-noon**. To schedule an appointment you may contact the office. Drop ins welcome. You may also contact Mike @ 423-5122 (home) or 563-422-1687 (cell) at any time.


 **Noisy Can Offering** for 3rd Quarter (July-Sept.) will go to the Inez Oakland family for expenses incurred during cancer treatment.


 **Confirmation Class** begins on **Wednesday, September 7th**, following school (2:30-3:30pm).

 There is a **Confirmation Parent Mtg.** at 6pm on *Wednesday, September 14th*, to go over the class expectations.

 **Men's Group** will meet Saturday, September 10th @ 8:30am at the church.

 **Sunday School** for preschool-5th grade will begin *Sunday, September 11th*. Students and teachers will be dismissed following the Gospel reading.

 **Sunday Brunch for September** is *Sunday, September 11th* following worship. Ruth Circle is hosting the brunch and funds go toward the paint project. Serving: Biscuits & Gravy Casserole

 **Quilters** will resume on September 13th @ 9am.

 **State Bird Quilt Silent Auction** raised \$1,300.00 the paint project.

 **First Communion Sunday** is September 18, 2022.