

The Lamp Lighter
August 2017
The Newsletter of Living Lord Lutheran Church
Real God. Real Faith. Real Life.
www.LLLC.org

Worship Schedule

Sundays at 8:00 am & **10:00** am at Living Lord Lutheran Church
Sundays at 9:00 am at Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Sundays at 10:30 am at St. Paul Lutheran Church

From Pastor William D. Leitch... This Fall, our Shared Ministry churches, Living Lord and St. Paul, will host a retreat; then follow that retreat up with six Sunday morning worship formats with an interactive portion. Our prayer is that we involve everyone in our congregations to look at who we were, who we are, and where we are going. Our Council invited all congregations to do this together and we pray for a strong presence at the retreat.

God calls us to be partners with God in God's work. We promise God and the entire Church at our affirmation of baptism to do God's work. We need to be intentional about being everything God has created us to be.

So on Saturday, October 7, we will have a retreat to set the stage for this six weeks' journey. Then, starting Sunday, October 8, we will incorporate into our sermon time an interactive format that will focus on specific questions for small groups to discuss. I suggest that the small groups be folks you sit next to every Sunday.

We need to hear every voice in our congregations. Each of you has a perspective that we need to hear. You also need to hear what others know or perceive.

I have already heard ideas and concerns from our Council that I never considered, but they need to be addressed. It is refreshing for me to know that we will go through this process.

Some have asked, "Why do this on Sunday?" Because that is when you "all" come together. We need every perspective or it is not complete.

On August 1, the Shared Ministry Committee will meet with Dave Daubert for his input on our Shared Ministry. Dave is our Synod's interim mission staff person from the ELCA. Dave is also the author of Living Lutheran: Renewing Your Congregation. This is the text on which we have focused and guided our efforts in our Shared Ministry.

Please join me in praying for this journey together as God's people and living out our faith in the world the best we can.

In it together,
Pr. Bill

Joint Worship & Picnic...We will have a Joint Worship & Picnic on **August 6** beginning at 10:30 am at Howland Township Park. Worship will begin at 10:30 am, lunch at 11:30 am, and activities at 12:30 pm. There will be no services at the churches on this date. RSVP to attend the Shared Ministry Worship and Picnic by signing the sign-up sheet. We need to prepare enough Bar-B-Q chicken. Please bring your own comfortable lawn chairs for the day's activities and please bring a side dish to share.

Servant Week...Servant Week was another new experience even for all of us who have participated every year. Eight Lutheran churches from our Eastern Conference gathered at Camp Frederick on June 18 with 35 youth and 8 adults. We painted a two story Victorian house built in 1860 in Rogers, Ohio. The team did it in four days and we only spilled one pint of paint, but the stories go on and on.

Every night at 10:00 pm we gathered for devotions and to share our highs, lows, and where we saw God that day. It was easier for our youth to see God at work in us and with us than it was to see a low. If you want a life-changing experience, come with us next time or come and visit our work sites once during the week.

Painting the house was my responsibility, but we also sent a team to Youngstown to work with Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation as we have for the past three years. A team of 10 painted and cut boards the first day. On day 2, we sent 27 to landscape a house that is being restored and will bring income to YNDC when it sells. On day 3, a team of 15 boarded up houses and continued to cut and paint boards. On day 4, a smaller team painted the entire stock of 4'x 8' sheets of plywood. YNDC had nothing left for us to do at the end of the day. A good thing, as it was to rain hard on Friday.

Meanwhile, on day 1, the house painters scraped 90% of the house and applied 10 gallons of primer to the old, original siding of the house. That only got it half primed. We used 22 gallons of primer to complete it. Thankfully, it only required 8 gallons of the more expensive Colonial Blue paint, since we sealed up the old boards.

These youth are the most awesome kids anyone could ever work with. This year we ate breakfast an hour earlier and got to the work site and worked an hour longer. We essentially put in an extra 8 hours in 4 days and got all the work done in 4 days. This is the standard the youth set. We adults offered to quit an hour earlier in order to do team-building at Camp. Our youth said, "We do team-building on the work site. We came to work."

I worried that the chatter, laughter, and noise on our work site might be intrusive for the neighbors; but no, the neighbors described the voices as the voices of birds: coordinating, helping, caring for one another and yes, coordinating the war on wasps. Our youth were "God sent" to Rogers and Youngstown. It stirs the neighbors and shows them what we can do to care for each other. One small task force of 5 painters finished painting the porch of the house we started 2 years ago. Automatically, they were identified as the "Camp Frederick People". The ones who get things done and do not quit until it is finished.

Four years ago, we struggled to get permission to work in Rogers. They were not thinking about others helping them. Now, the village is buzzing with requests for us to help their neighbors who need the help.

As we shared each night where we saw God at work that day, I was able to share those God stories with every person in Rogers, and in Salem at The Home Depot, and at the filling station in Rogers, and with everyone in Trumbull County that I meet.

From Pastor Ann Marie Winters... Renewing our Mission?

Generally speaking, a mission is something one is sent to accomplish. Like any other living, dynamic group, the church has a mission to accomplish – our mission is to spread the word of Jesus – his Good News. To grow and thrive as a church, we will tune into our mission, looking at what it is that we are trying to accomplish and how we are doing. There are three areas of mission – social ministry, ecumenical efforts, and evangelism.

Social Ministry: Are we living out Christ’s call to love the poor and the stranger? By sharing our bread with the hungry, providing food and clothes and physical necessities, we show Christ’s compassion for all people. Our brothers and sisters in need can see the love of Christ in us when we reach out in love and kindness to be compassionate towards them. In fact, loving others is a test of our love for Christ himself. Our Lord taught, “Whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you do it to me.”

Ecumenical Efforts: Churches are not meant to be divided in our witness to Christ. We all share “One Lord, one faith, one baptism”, and it is our Lord’s prayer that we make a united effort to be his Body in the world. How are we cooperating with other churches? Do we have fellowship and prayer and worship together? Do we work elbow-to-elbow with Christians from other churches to witness to Christ in the world?

Evangelism: The great commission is to go out to all the world, preaching the gospel and baptizing, so Christ may be known. What are we doing to reach those who do not know Jesus? It is our mission to reach non-Christians in our community and show them Jesus. Do we have a way of talking about our faith so that others know we are Christians? Do we invite them to know Christ, to pray, to serve, to worship?

The Shared Ministry Committee is beginning to work with the Synod’s Director of Evangelical Mission, Pastor Dave Daubert, to look at our activities, and to plan what steps we would like to take in renewing our mission. Let us pray for the work of this committee and look forward together to a **Renewal of our Mission**.

Reaching out to you and with you,
Pastor Ann Marie Winters

Everyone has a part to play in the church’s Mission Planning: As we look at our mission and outreach in the community, we want to hear your voice. What do you think about our social ministry, our work with other churches, our witness in the world? These may seem like big questions, but we will explore them together in a special six-week program this Fall.

At this time, St. Paul and Living Lord have decided to engage in a “Prayer and Renewal Series” called *Fanning the Flame* (from the Northwestern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA).

- **A RETREAT TO PREPARE DISCUSSION LEADERS ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7:**
 - Training leaders of St. Paul and Living Lord
 - “Invitation to a journey” 6-minute DVD with discussion
 - “For the sake of others; in God for the world” 5-minute DVD with discussion
 - “We are church for the sake of the world” 5-minute DVD with Bishop Eaton/discussion
- **WORSHIP ORDER FOR OCTOBER 8 THROUGH NOVEMBER 19:**
 - The six weeks of worship from Oct. 8 to Nov. 19 will include a 15-minute small group discussion time during the worship service. Each worshipper will be included in a small group. A captain will lead discussion and make note of 2 or 3 points that come from their group each week.

- SIX WEEKLY THEMES, SCRIPTURE, AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
 - Oct. 8: The burning bush: LISTEN
 - Oct. 15: The valley of the dry bones: LOOK
 - Oct. 22: Jesus sends out 70 disciples: RESPOND
 - Oct. 29: JOINT REFORMATION WORSHIP AT ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 - Nov. 5: Finding the lost: FORGIVE
 - Nov. 12: The great commandment: LOVE
 - Nov. 19: The great commission: GO

Materials for discussion will be circulated in the September and October Newsletters so you can prepare in thought and prayer. Please feel free to discuss this program with members of council and the pastors. It is an exciting time for us all! You won't want to miss it.

REFORMATION 500TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:
DVD Course discussion "Lunch with Luther" Sunday noontime
8 weeks, Sept. 3 to Oct. 22

Seminary teachers make topics accessible to laity; hosted at St. Paul for Trumbull Area Lutherans; bring a brown bag lunch; drinks provided

DVD Course Description – Luther's Legacy for Laity: Martin Luther's legacy is a rich treasure for all Christians, but particularly for lay people. Luther, through the doctrines of justification, freedom of the Christian, bondage of the will, and vocation, provides Christians with an understanding of what God has done for us and what God wants to do through us for the sake of the neighbor. All the big questions of faith and life are found in the abundance of Reformation theology. These theologians shape how Christians view their place in the world. These presentations were filmed live at the Lay School of Ministry in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA.

This 8-week course will have a DVD presentation and discussion totaling 90 minutes each Sunday. Come to one or all sessions. Please reserve a place by calling Lynn Golen at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 330-394-5741. All are welcome!

Movie: "Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World"
Tuesday, October 24, 7:30 pm

Special showing for area Lutherans at Tinseltown, Southern Park Mall (Youngstown)

Shared Ministry Joint Worship
Sunday, October 29, 10:30 am

At St. Paul Lutheran Church; finger food reception in Cassel Hall following worship

Anniversary of the Reformation
Sunday, October 29, 6:00 pm

At St. Columba Cathedral, Youngstown, Catholic-Lutheran Ecumenical Evening Prayer

"God's Work, Our Hands" Lutheran Day of Service: This year, we plan to join ELCA churches around the country in doing service projects on the afternoon of Sunday, September 10. On this one day, Lutherans across the country make a joint effort to do various small projects to help neighbors – a nationwide witness to the love of Christ. Our Social Ministry Committee at St. Paul will have a poster to describe the day displayed in the narthex. Do you have a small household job that you cannot complete on your own? Tell Pastor Winters or Judy Dodge. Or would you like to pitch in to do service on September 10? Please sign up in the narthex. The more the merrier!

From the Fellowship Committee Chairperson, Kara Busefink...

August Fellowship... We will have Fellowship on **Sunday, August 13 & 20**, hosted by the baptism families. On August 13 we will have the baptism of Evelyn Walters, the daughter of Matt and McCala Walters and granddaughter of Lynne Walters. On August 20 we will have the baptism of Nicolas Montagna, the son of Ignacio and Tracy Montagna and grandson of Warner and Norma Taiclet.

From the Finance Committee, Treasurer Dave Henderson... The books are closed for June 2017. Receipts for June were \$7,604.15 and expenses were \$11,397.41, resulting in a loss of \$3,793.26 for the month. Year-to-date through June, our giving has totaled \$76,736.40 and our expenses have been \$73,311.03, for a gain of \$3,425.37. We had individuals who contributed their giving for the entire year in January. So once again, we showed a large gain (profit) early in the year, but as the year has progressed, we have slowly decreased the profit number as our expenses have exceeded our giving. It is not uncommon that we see a drop in income during the summer months. Our goal (budget) for 2017 is that we end the year in a breakeven position. If you look at the last three years together (2014-2016), we have managed to achieve a balanced budget, which is our goal. I anticipate that in 2017 we will once again meet that goal, but we need everyone to re-evaluate their giving against their pledge as I anticipate in the next month of two we will be in a negative position by the end of summer.

From the Later Life Committee Chairperson, Karen Bandy...

Card Class... Join us for a card-making class on **Thursday, August 3**, in the Activity Room. We will be making 4 cards. Our theme will be the crowd favorite "Black-and-White". Classes will be at 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm. The cost is \$12.00. Please bring adhesives like double-stick tape and liquid glue. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. The deadline for signing up is Sunday, July 30. Emmanuel and St. Paul members are welcome to join us – call Lynne Walters at 330-856-9689 to get signed up!

From the MEF Committee Chairperson, Michael Taiclet... Greetings and blessings from the MEF to each and every one of you. I hope everyone had a great 4th of July and are having a great summer thus far! I apologize for not writing in a while. It has been an especially busy spring and summer for me. I just have not had the time to write. At the same time, there just has not been much to report on. I am back and proud to announce that the MEF Committee has picked the MEF Award recipient for this year. The recipient will be announced at a later date. The MEF Award will be presented at both services on **Sunday, October 15, 2017**. I am proud of whom we have chosen and cannot wait for you to meet and congratulate them. Also, there will be another cause for celebration on this day. I am pleased to announce that the MEF will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary. There will be time for fellowship to meet our award recipient and to celebrate this monumental occasion. So I hope to see you there! Just as a reminder, the MEF Committee members for 2017 are: Michael Taiclet, Chairperson; Ronda Leitch, Secretary; Lamar Shoemaker, Finance Secretary; Missy LaRock, Tootie Rogers, and Pastor Bill Leitch, Advisory Member. The MEF is always looking for names of groups/organizations for the MEF Award. So if you know of anyone or have anyone in mind, please let any MEF member know. Let us keep this mission going and our community strong. Together we can make a difference. I thank all those who have contributed to help keep this mission going. Thank you and God bless!

From the Outreach Committee Chairperson, Donna Tompkins...

Update on Niles Shepherd of the Valley Summer Picnic... The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who assisted with this event. The residents look forward to this summer picnic each year and we appreciate all the help we receive in order to put on this event.

From the Bell Choir Director, Lynne Walters...Bravo! The Living Lord Lutheran Church Hand Bell Choir performed at Howland Shepherd of the Valley on Monday afternoon, July 17. The large audience of residents and their families thoroughly enjoyed the songs that the Hand Bell Choir presented. A big thank you to Darlene Altieri, Pat Butts, Madeline Goussios, Ronda Leitch, Nancy and Rollie Walters, and Jan Was for their hard work and dedication over the past year and this summer. What a great performance!

From the Parish Nurse, Dora Muller...*"Nothing brings to life again a forgotten memory like fragrance."* Christopher Poindexter

Arpege is my favorite fragrance. I have many memories associated with scents. The smell of a white carnation and tuberose always takes me back to my childhood. I use these scents to comfort me and it is my aromatherapy. The term "aromatherapy" is fairly new; it was coined in 1937 by Rene-Maurice Gattefosse while extracting oils from flowers and herbs. However, the effects of aromatherapy are ancient. Who does not enjoy the smell of roses or oranges and feels invigorated with their scents. The healing properties of essential oils are well known. Essential oils are extracted from plants such as barks, leaves, and flowers. The sale of scented candles and air diffusers are very popular because people enjoy their soothing effects. We have come a long way from burning incense, as was practiced by the Egyptians and Romans, to today where we employ bergamot scent to treat post-anesthesia nausea. Caution is necessary when shopping for essential oils. They can be considered as drugs, and thus, because government regulation is limited and as yet to be adopted, at least personal caution should be taken to avoid overuse and/or side effects. Remember, not all natural ingredients are safe. Most of our medications are derived from nature. If in doubt as to how to use and what essential oils are best suited for you, limit yourself to candles and fresh-cut flowers to invigorate your home. There are physicians in our area that are certified in complimentary medicine and can help you to better understand the role of essential oils. Just enjoy the smell of roses...it will light up your day and improve your energy level.

EVENTS IN AUGUST

Thursday, August 3, 2:00 & 6:00 pm – Later Life Card Class in Activity Room

Sunday, August 6, 10:30 am – Joint Worship & Picnic at Howland Township Park

Sunday, August 13 – Fellowship After Both Services

Monday, August 14, 6:00 pm – Council in Activity Room

Saturday, August 19, 8:00 am – Congregation Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, August 20 – Fellowship After Both Services/Blood Pressure Screening/**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

1 = Gabrielle Mazzola & Patti Rinehart
2 = Damien Sheely
4 = Alexandra (Rinehart) Matune & Michelle Metzger
5 = Susan Henderson
6 = Robert Hinton, Jr.
8 = Joyce L'Amoureux
10 = Lynne Walters
14 = Brandon Miller
15 = Patsy Pastva
18 = Tyler Pesa
19 = Tom Altieri
20 = Kayla Altieri & Tracy (Taiclet) Montagna
21 = Kevin & Kyle Chopko & Michele Lambert
22 = Art Taylor
25 = Lorraine Bell, Jean Dillon & Stephen Mazzola
27 = Zachary Harden
28 = Ronda Leitch
29 = Patty Smith
31 = Ken Ketcham

Anniversaries

4 – Gilmore, Jack & Patricia
11 = Pagano, Joseph & Whitney (Crain)
20 = Marrara, Tony & Diane
23 = Muller, Keith & Dora
31 = Ketcham, Ken & Donna

NEWS FROM THE SHARED MINISTRY

Emmanuel Clothes Closet...The Clothes Closet is open every Tuesday at 9:00 am. In need of: summer clothes (children & adults), bathing suits, deodorant, lotion, dish soap, paper towels, toilet tissue, anything for babies, plastic bags, curtains, doilies, sheets.

Emmanuel Shopping Cart Needs for August...Instant potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, stuffing mix, gravy (jar or mix), Vienna sausages, canned fruit, cracker snacks, cans of food with pop top lids for easy opening.

St. Paul Grief Ministry...Part of the Social Committee is Grief Ministry. Joyce Osborn (330-372-2136) is spearheading this ministry with Pr. Winters' and God's guidance and help. When a loved one dies, Joyce sends a set of four books called "Journeying Through Grief" throughout the first year. Each book describes the issues and feelings that a person tends to encounter at various points of grief and the books offer suggestions on handling them. If Pr. Winters or Joyce can be of any help or if you have any questions during a time of grief, please contact either of them.

St. Paul SPLASH TODAY...Donations are always warmly welcomed, and with your continued support, we will be able to sustain this valuable ministry to young families.