

The Lamp Lighter
June 2022
The Newsletter of Living Lord Lutheran Church
Real God. Real Faith. Real Life.

Mission Statement
As the body of the Living Lord, Jesus Christ, we seek to reflect and share God's grace, love, and forgiveness with one another near and far.

Vision Statement
We are a community of faith committed to strengthening faith, strengthening lives, strengthening relationships, strengthening families, and thus, strengthening the community into which God has placed us.

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SUNDAYS
WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:30 AM

From the President, Bob McKinney...I was having trouble coming up with my report for this month. I just felt that I should give a "State of the Church" message as I see it. So here we go...These past few years have been a long and sometimes difficult journey for Living Lord Lutheran Church. We have lived through COVID-19, we have closed and opened and closed and opened the church, we have struggled with attendance post COVID-19, we went from two services on Sunday to one service each Sunday, mask or no mask, conflict within the congregation, a change in our financial picture, our long-time pastor retired, and the list goes on. All these challenges put in our way! Let us look at the good side of our picture. Our attendance is getting stronger, our Outreach programs are starting back since COVID-19, our beautiful choir is singing for us on Sundays, our Fellowships are well attended, our Adult Forum and Bible Study are well attended. I know the call process has been difficult for many of us and I understand the frustration. But because of our financial situation, we are in a different position than we have been in the past. We are one of five congregations in our Synod that are looking

for a part-time pastor and none have found one. I have been talking with Mitch Phillips at the Synod and he has told me that pastors are not looking for a part-time gig and he is right. This slows the process down for us. Our best bet is creating a parish with another church and sharing the pastor between us. As most of you know, I have been talking with St. John Lutheran Church in Champion, which I feel would be a good fit for us. They are a little behind us as they just finished and filed their Ministry Site Profile with the Synod. I should be talking with their Call Committee Chairperson within the next week. Please remember, it took three years to call Pastor Bill. We are praying as a congregation each night to ask God for a vision and purpose for our church. All we need to do is open our hearts and listen. Let us all stay positive and work together toward one goal...making Living Lord Lutheran Church a vital part of this community.

Pasta Dinner Update...The Pasta Dinner hosted by Living Lord, St. John, and St. Paul Lutheran Churches at St. Paul was a huge success. We raised \$1,800.00 to go to Trumbull Mobile Meals. Thank you to everyone who assisted with or attended this joint event.

Church Information...Please remember that you can obtain church information from the monthly Lamplighter Newsletter, the Constant Contact emails you receive, on the church website (www.lllc.org), on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Living-Lord-Lutheran-Church-493806727349110/>), and postings on the church bulletin board. Church Council Meeting minutes are posted on the bulletin board and sent out via Constant Contact. We would like to see a better "open rate" when we send information to you via Constant Contact so that we know you are being informed of the activities that are occurring at the church. If you have any other suggestions on how best to reach out to our parishioners, please see a Council member.

From the Finance Committee, Treasurer Dave Henderson...The books are closed for April 2022. The receipts for April 2022 were \$8,254.54 and expenses were \$8,367.09, for a net loss of \$112.55. Year to date through April 30, March 2022, receipts were \$28,964.98 and expenses were \$30,117.62 for a year-to-date loss of \$1,152.64. We need to start building a pretty good surplus for the time when we have a pastor's full salary or even a part-time pastor. If you are behind in your pledges, please catch up. Again, thank you to all who help us keep going financially and spiritually! Let's hope and pray that 2022 will be another positive year financially.

From the Fellowship Committee Chairperson, Karen Bandy...We will continue to have Fellowship on the third Sunday of the month during the summer (June 19). It has been so nice seeing everyone come together for great goodies and wonderful conversation. And I am so appreciative of all the helping elves on the Fellowship Committee. They are a very generous group with their time.

From the In-Reach Committee Chairperson, Lorraine Bell...Please notify Lorraine Bell at 330-219-5881 (cell) or 330-372-0227 (home) (or the church office) of any members who are hospitalized, ill, etc., so a card can be sent from the church.

Prayer Chain...Our prayer chain consists of seven members: Camille Allen (330-503-1817), Karen Bandy (330-856-4835), Pam Boothe (740-395-3564), Karin McKinney (330-469-6083), Jacquie Thomas (330-609-9805), Rose Zavatsky (330-883-3267), and Lorraine Bell (330-219-5881). Please call one of the women with the name needing prayer and any concerns you feel are relevant. Be sure to have the permission of that person. That person will pass it on to the next one and it will go on to the next person, etc., so that we are all praying.

From the Outreach Committee Chairperson, Judy Shaffer...

Bingo at LSOV Update...The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who donated to or assisted with the Bingo at Liberty Shepherd of the Valley on Wednesday, May 18. The residents thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

From the Stewardship Committee Chairperson, Neal L'Amoureux...

2022 Stewardship Program - Where Your Heart Is – Humble Hearts: A lot of people asked her the same question: “So, when are you heading to seminary?” The question bothered her every time she heard it. Five years as a successful youth lay minister, and she was just now getting to establish real relationships with the kids. She was good at her job. Why did people think youth ministry was just a starting point? Something you do on your way to a “real” job. Seminary training may have brought higher compensation, more leadership responsibilities, and a chance to affect the larger church. A move up? She shook her head. “I could be here a long time. I don’t feel the Lord calling me anywhere else. This is enough.” She paused. “It’s more than enough.” You’ve heard the phrase, “Bloom where you are planted.” This youth director certainly understood what the meant. It is easy to get caught up in thinking about how we might serve “over there” or “after I get the right training” or “when I get a better job”. Maybe a new job or a move is in your future, but God’s call to faithful stewardship is always about the present, blooming where and how you are planted. If the future holds out the hope of even greater opportunities for service, so be it. But remember, today was once your future.

From the Worship Committee Chairperson, Karin McKinney...

Worship Assistants Needed...We are in need of Worship Assistants in all categories. Please see the sign-up sheets on the main bulletin board. See Karin McKinney for an explanation of each position.

Thank you...Thank you for your gift of \$240.80 received on April 27 for Camp Frederick’s Grief Camp. We are grateful and humbled by your financial stewardship of God’s good gifts. Your prayers and gifts make a difference! As we thank you for your financial support, we do ask for your prayers. Please regularly include our year-round staff, our summer staff, and all our guests in your prayers. Finally, we ask that you spread the word in your church family about summer camp and about the facilities which are available for rent here at Camp Frederick. We have found that “word of mouth” is by far the best way to advertise what we have here. Thank you again for including Camp Frederick in your giving plan. Blessings of peaceful grace, Matt Miller, Director

Thank you...Dear Church Family, Thank you all so much for the beautiful cards, thoughts, and prayers. Thanks, too, for the visits and phone calls as Warner looked so forward to receiving them. They really helped keep his spirits up. The check from the auction was really fantastic and will be put to good use. Without saying, our “Church Family” is certainly looking after us. Thank you again for your thoughtfulness. It is appreciated more than words can say. Your kindness means the world to all of us. Blessings to all of you, Norma Taiclet and Family

Thank you...Dear Members of Living Lord Lutheran Church, We truly appreciate your thoughtful contribution of \$1,800.00 on May 18, 2022, in support of Trumbull Mobile Meals’ home meal delivery service. Because of your generous donation, and all of the supporting effort that went into the Pasta Dinner, members of our communities will receive a nutritious meal, and a warm smile. Your contribution is very deeply appreciated and is an invaluable resource for Trumbull Mobile Meals. Together we can deliver meals to those who cannot

get to a congregate meal site, distribution center, or is unable to cook for themselves. Your humanitarian endeavors are greatly appreciated by our Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, clients, and residents of Trumbull County. We would love to keep you updated with our emails and newsletters. You can sign up for those on our website at TrumbullMobileMeals.org. Thanks again for your support! Warmest regards, Rebecca Edwards, CEO

EVENTS IN JUNE

Wednesday, June 8, 10:00 am - Trustees Meeting in Activity Room

Sunday, June 12 – Council in Activity Room 10:45 am

Sunday, June 19, 9:30 am – Father’s Day/Fellowship after Service/**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

JUNE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

- 4 = Donna Ketcham
- 7 = Raphael Radtka
- 9 = Dave Henderson
- 14 = Jillian Anderson
- 15 = Jacquie Thomas
- 16 = Gloria Michaels
- 17 = Marjorie DeScenna
- 20 = Arlene Barkan & David DeScenna
- 23 = Robert Griffin

Anniversaries

- 1 = DeScenna, David & Marjorie
- 15 = Shoemaker, Lamar & Marge
- 20 = Baringer, Rich & Rose
- 21 = McKinney, Bob & Karin
- 21 = Thompson, Chuck & Kitty
- 23 = Welter, Fred & Judie

