

The Proclamation

September 2020 Newsletter



"Our mission is to help others experience the love of God, as revealed through Jesus Christ."



2020 Congregation Council and Officers

Pegg Wreg – President, Coordinator Good News + Amen

Lisa Clark – Vice President

Nancy Baum – Secretary

Jayma Davis – Treasurer

Robin Carrig – Financial Secretary

Theo Jesionowski – at Large

Diane Nicholson – at large

Chuck Horn – at Large

Sandy Leis – at Large

John Dyer – Pastor

Staff

Jayma Davis – Church Administrator

Mike Buxton – Building and Grounds Coordinator

Kathy Kilty – Custodian

Michelle Kindell -- Music

Within the Congregation

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Pastoral Reflections for September 2020

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

(Romans 14:7)

COVID-19 has put a strain on all of us. We might ask "How is God present in all of this?"

Some of the You Tube videos we've seen in worship have provided examples of many who live, as Jesus taught, for the sake of others. But there are examples on the nightly news of those who rage, blame, and are careless about others. God is present to all, but some simply don't see or care about God's presence.

I've read the above passage many times as people gather around the grave for the burial of a person they have loved. That is a reminder that the Lord Jesus Christ is at the heart of our existence as a Christian community.

But even during good times, it can be a challenge for people of the church to put Christ at the heart of their community. I expect every pastor can tell you about the disputes we've had over **how** things are done. One man stopped coming to worship because I sang the liturgy one time. "I'm a Lutheran, not a Catholic," he snorted. (Luther sang the liturgy :)

But the Lord's presence with the church during COVID-19 can put that thinking to the test. Is it how things are done? Or, are we to come into worship to praise and give thanks to the Lord Jesus? There are so many ways to do that. And I am thankful that we have found some new and meaningful ways to give thanks and praise to the Lord.

Now, beginning September 13, we will take some small steps toward increasing worship, mission, and fellowship opportunities. The council and I will pay close attention to the recommendations and the trends in this area. You have done a great job in adjusting to the circumstances that we have faced. God bless you all and thank you.

Some of what we have done the past 7 months will remain with us. Zoom meetings have been a tremendous benefit. And we continue to have people with us at worship on Zoom who would not otherwise be with us. In fact our entire conference has reported people at worship that otherwise would not be there.

See the article below from a newspaper in Washington, NC:

The coronavirus spread to over 90 people in Ohio after an infected man attended a church service earlier this year.

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine (R) shared a graphic Tuesday that shows that 91 people from five counties in the state developed symptoms of COVID-19 after a 56-year-old man with coronavirus attended a church service. Fifty-three of the cases resulted from fellow worshippers at the service, who later spread COVID-19 symptoms to others in their community. Over a dozen children, including one as young as one year old, developed symptoms by July 4 following the service, according to the graphic. (From "The Hill")

This is why we're doing what we're doing. The same Lord who spoke about leaving a flock of 99 sheep to save the one who was lost would not want OSLC risk the infection of one person. What's the likelihood of that happening? I hope you don't care. I hope it's not acceptable to even risk one person.

So with that in mind, I have been talking with our leaders and come up with a way to bring Holy Communion back to worship. It will include those on Zoom and those at the building. As announced, that will happen on Sept. 20. Instructions will be emailed early that week. Adult Discover begins the 13 on Zoom at 3:00.

We will start there. I am working on ways to bring live music (recorded on the Clavinova) into worship. There are some major challenges. But I think there are ways.

We will move slowly and possibly need to take forward and backward steps. If, hopefully, the President is correct and we will have a vaccine before year's end, 2021 will be a very freeing year for everyone. But until that time we will draw upon the wisdom of the medical experts and move with caution. But know this, Christ will always be at the center of every decision the council and I make. Because no matter what the situation, we are the Lord's.

Grace and Peace

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Council conducted the April council meeting via Zoom on April 4, 2020. Members in attendance were Pastor John Dyer, Pegg Wren, Lisa Clark, Nancy Baum, Sandy, Leis, and Jayma Davis.

Pastor John opened the meeting with a prayer.

Ministry of Worship:

Pastor stated that Holy Week services are scheduled as Zoom meetings: Maundy Thursday, April 9 at 5:30 pm., Good Friday, April 10 at 12:00 pm and Easter Sunday, April 12 at 10:30 am. An Easter celebration will be planned when in person services resume.

Ministry of Support:

Pastor reported that the church website is now active <https://www.oursaviorskenton.org/>. The newsletter will be available on the website along with Tith.ly, an online giving option. Pastor also reported that there is a stimulus emergency loan available for churches through an SBA lender, if needed.

Ministry of Learning:

The Virtual Book Club, via Zoom, will be meeting later this month. Information will be sent out via email to all participants.

Ministry of Service:

Pastor reports that homebound individuals in need of assistance should call the hotline 419-674-9045. Anyone interested in making washable face masks for Susan Marsico's dad's assisted living care facility can follow the instructions in the attached video. Susan would be happy to pick up and deliver them. <https://youtu.be/9tBg0Os5FWQ>

Consent Agenda:

The treasurer's report included the following account balances: shares \$25.35, savings \$1,832.28, and checking \$2,511.20. The Pastor's, secretary's and treasurer's report were provided online. Sandy made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Lisa seconded the motion. Approved by all.

Pastor John closed the meeting with a prayer.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 3 at a time to be determined. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Baum
OSLC Secretary

ACCOUNT SUMMARY

COVID-19 Hardship Assistance Available

Bank Accounts

Account	Name	Available Balance	Actual Balance	Last Transaction	Accrued Dividends
000	REGULAR SHARES	\$6,423.03	\$6,428.03	8/4/2020	\$0.00
011	PARKINGLOT FUND	\$0.43	\$0.43	8/4/2020	\$0.00
012	SAVINGS	\$1,833.58	\$1,833.58	12/30/2019	\$0.00
045	CHECKING	\$2,644.05	\$2,644.05	8/29/2020	\$0.00
ACCOUNT TOTALS		\$10,901.09	\$10,906.09		\$0.00

August 2020

Account	Name	Regular Payment	Amount Due	Due Date	Balance
600	CLOSED END LOAN	\$467.57	\$452.67	9/8/2020	\$11,157.22
915	SBA-PPP	\$337.44	\$337.44	10/9/2020	\$8,027.06
ACCOUNT TOTALS		\$805.01	\$790.11		\$19,184.28

Applied For Forgiveness 8/27/2020

edit Cards

Account	Name	Regular Payment	Amount Due	Due Date	Balance
820	EXPLORER CC	\$2.00	\$2.00	9/28/2020	\$2.00
ACCOUNT TOTALS		\$2.00	\$2.00		\$2.00

Credit Card

8/6 12.00 Postage
 8/20 19.00 website
 8/29 8.40 Postage
\$ 39.40

beg. balance 1476.82
 Deposits 5284.74
 Transfers 2600.00
 Checks (5144.88)
 IRS/Pension (1065.66)
 Credit Card (39.40)
 Parking lot (167.57)
\$ 2644.05

SAVINGS

beg 1,833.35
 Int .23
1,833.58

Reg Shares

beg 8026.94
 Transfer (1600.00) (Pay Quality Paving)
 Int 1.09
\$ 6428.03

Parking lot

beg. bal 1,000.43
 Transfer (1,000.00) Pay Quality Paving
\$.43

September Birthdays

01.....Susan Marsico

08.....Aaron Brown

16.....Ken Hilty

28.....Zakkary Spearman

29.....Payton Stalk



Within Our Neighborhood at Home

Safe Haven
Women of the Church
Table One
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Love INC

Table One We are Permanently Closed

Table One must make the unfortunate announcement that we have served our last meal and are now permanently closed.

While this was a difficult and heartbreaking decision for us, we are determined to make our final words those of hope and gratitude.

When Table One first opened its doors just over four years ago, we knew that we were attempting the impossible. We opened with the knowledge that paywhat-you-can-afford community diners were notoriously difficult to keep running and funded, even in larger cities. Yet every day, our founder, Reverend Loran Miracle, and the first Board of Directors for Table One worked tirelessly to bring their vision to Kenton and Hardin County; a place where people can eat and come together as one community. Every day we were able to keep the doors of Table One open, we were embracing that passion and doing what was only possible because “with God all things are possible”.

We would not have been able to achieve what we had without the support of every single employee, volunteer, board member, donor, and patron over the past four years. In the past two years alone, we were able to serve roughly 8,200 free meals to members of our community. Every dollar or minute worked is the only reason we were able to make that kind of impact in our community, an impact that will not be lessened by our closing. While we are currently saddened by our closing, we can take comfort in what we were able to do for four years with your help, and for that we are forever grateful.

While there is little doubt that had we not had to face the challenges of COVID-19 we would continue to be able to serve the community, we prefer not to look at what could have been, but rather at what could be. Pay-what-you-can-afford community diners are a far more common sight than they were four years ago when we opened. It is our hope that someday, somebody with a little bit of faith, a little bit of hope, and a whole lot of love will be able to pick up our torch and start a new community café in Hardin County. When that time comes, we hope that you will be able to show them the kind of support that you have shown us.

Thank you for sharing a seat at our table!

Our Concept

There are no prices on our menus. We embrace a “pay what you can afford” concept:

1. Pay what you can afford for your meal. If you are unable to pay, give your time with us in service as payment .
2. Pay something extra to “pay it forward” for someone currently Unable to afford a meal.
3. Give your time in service to “pay it forward” for your neighbor to enjoy a meal.

Give and Take. Pay it Forward. Support your Community.

Proud to partner with the Midwest Ohio Food Bank to offer food distribution EVERY Thursday. Free meals are also served.

Now partnering with West Ohio Food Bank to distribute food on Thursday nights from 5:30-7:30

Schedule for Codependents, Al-Anon and Nar-Anon

Wednesday Codependents 7:00pm Zoom

Friday Al-Anon Family Group 10:00am Zoom

Friday Nar-Anon 11:30 Zoom

Greetings and blessings to my
OSLC family!

It has been a very long spring and an even longer summer and I really don't want to see fall arrive but, it is what it is. The "pandemic" has made this a year to never forget. Believe me I will not be forgetting "the year 2020 has brought us a plenty!"

I have kept myself busy during the quarantine working on knotting quilts, gathering Lutheran World Relief items, and crafting for the annual bazaar. I pray we have it because I have been busy. Ken says I'm in trouble if we don't have it. LOL. I'm hoping that our faith and courage has not faltered among the rest of us ladies. We need to decide what our plans are and just how we will be executing this year's bazaar. Maybe crafts but no food? Just a thought. All I know is I have already sold some of my items so I say "Full steam ahead!"

I must say also that my faith has been rocked quite a bit by this "pandemic." I mean I'm not saying

that the COVID 19 is not real. I'm certain that it is. It just saddens me to see the fear it has placed in the hearts of Christians everywhere. Close the churches! OK Reopen the churches!

BUT...; no hugging, no singing, no meetings, no coffee, no chatter, no fellowship, no Sunday school, no signal, no communion, no sharing of the peace...
... wow no being a child of God.

I'm not prepared to give up on my Sunday worship but I'm not getting any of it. Shouldn't we be called to continue to do the works of Our Father and of Jesus Christ? Shouldn't we let that "mustard seed" of faith guide us back to being what we want to be as a Christian? I'm ready to get things rolling folks! And just like the saying goes from one of my favorite movies we "need to get busy living or get busy dying." I know where my heart is. And God will see us through.

Yours in Christ,
Kathy Hilly



**Chloe
Noel**

Technology Trainer

Guiding Ohio Online

chloe.tech.help@gmail.com

567-525-8499



Mon. Ridgeman Public Library

Tues. Forest-Jackson Public Library

Wed. Ada Public Library

Thurs. Hardin Northern Public Library

Fri. MLJ Hardin County District Library

Free Tech Support for
Hardin County

During Covid-19 call
Chloe for a 15 min
appointment.

Partnerships within ELCA

ELCA and Lutheran World Relief partner to fight COVID-19 around the world

8/4/2020 11:30:00 AM

CHICAGO — The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has worked with Lutheran World Relief (LWR) to repurpose \$160,000 in project funding for emergency responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

In Latin America, the funding will be used for food assistance in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, which have been hard-hit by the coronavirus and the resulting economic disruption that is causing increased hunger. In Africa, the support will provide improved water, sanitation and hygiene, along with personal protective equipment, to displaced communities in South Sudan. And a project in Nepal will ensure that quarantine facilities are hygienic and comfortable, and that households economically affected by COVID-19 are able to cultivate their crops and sustain their small-scale businesses.

"Thanks to the flexibility and rapid action of our ELCA partners, Lutheran World Relief has been able to quickly ramp up these emergency responses to COVID-19," said Daniel Speckhard, LWR president and CEO. "This is so important because COVID-19 is a major threat to the resilience and well-being of the communities where we serve. Lives will be saved as a result of this support."

"The ELCA has a tradition of standing with our global neighbors in good times and in bad," said the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the ELCA. "Our partnership with Lutheran World Relief is a reflection of that strong commitment and allows us to deepen and extend it in this time of extreme crisis."

The ELCA and LWR share a long, historical relationship and a mutual commitment to companionship in mission. Through its [ELCA World Hunger](#) program, the ELCA has provided \$1 million in annual support to LWR for projects that serve people and communities in various regions around the world, including Latin America, Asia and Africa.

For information contact:

Candice Hill Buchbinder

773-380-2877 Candice.HillBuchbinder@ELCA.org

From Lutheran Disaster Response

U.S. Wildfires

The Situation:

Fueled by a heat wave and ignited by lightning strikes, dozens of wildfires have erupted across California. At least four people have died, tens of thousands of people are under evacuation orders and more than 1 million acres have burned. Some evacuees face the difficult decision of whether to stay in a shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our Response:

Lutheran Disaster Response is in engaging with Lutheran Social Services of Southern California and Lutheran Social Services of Northern California, along with the three California synods (Sierra Pacific, Southwest California and Pacifica), to assess the situation and determine the best ways to respond. We expect immediate needs to include food and other life necessities, as well as emotional and spiritual care for those who have been traumatized.

What you can do:

Pray:

Please pray for the communities that lie in the paths of wildfires in California. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need. Pray that God will deliver comfort to those who mourn and strength to those working diligently to contain the fires and care for affected communities.

Give:

Your gifts will support wildfire survivors. Gifts to "[U.S. Wildfires](#)" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by wildfires until the response is complete.

Connect:

To learn more about the situation and the ELCA's response:

- Sign up to receive Lutheran Disaster Response [alerts](#).
- Check the Lutheran Disaster Response [blog](#).
- Like Lutheran Disaster Response on [Facebook](#) and follow [@ELCALDR](#) on [Twitter](#).

Hurricane Laura

Hurricane Laura, a powerful Category 4 storm, has hit Louisiana and parts of Texas with devastating force, causing at least three deaths, major damage and leaving hundreds of thousands without power. With extremely dangerous storm surge and winds of at least 150 mph, it's one of the most powerful storms to hit the area in a century, and it left widespread destruction in its wake.

Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response (Upbring) and the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana, Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast and Southwestern Texas synods, which are assessing the immediate needs and initiating a response. While the extent of the damage is not yet known, we will accompany devastated communities from immediate relief through long-term recovery.

Your gifts designated for "Hurricane Response" will be used entirely (100%) for direct response until it is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by hurricanes. Please give now. *(Photo credit: NOAA)*