Monthly Newsletter July/Aug 2022 August 2000 Descent and the second and the

Mission Statement of Community Lutheran Church: Living Christ's love in all we do.

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR TIM "The Sabbath Rest of Summer"

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"And on the seventh day God rested from the work that he had done." (Genesis 2:2; NRSV)

Summertime is here. And that means it is time for school to be out, people taking summer vacations, families having reunions, people spending more time outdoors, and outside temperatures being very hot. But most importantly this is a time to rest and take a break from the things we usually do every day.

According to the Bible, resting is a very holy activity. It is a time to notice all that God is doing in our lives and appreciate all that we have been given.

In the first chapter of Genesis, God created the world in six days and on the seventh day God rested. Now think about it, God doesn't need to rest. God is all powerful, so God's strength is never diminished by too much stress and activity. But God took delight in resting and enjoying all that God has made.

We, on the other hand as human beings, do need to rest. And when we don't, we suffer from anxiety, depression, workaholism, and burnout. This hinders our emotional health, our physical health, our relationships, and even our spirituality. We actually need to rest, while God simply takes delight in rest.

So thank God for summer. A time to enjoy God's creation and people we love, and to take part in activities that nurture our spirits. I encourage you to take time to enjoy these summer months no matter how hot it is. Celebrate the Fourth of July, go on a trip, and see some of the sights in our area (like Lake Mohave, Oatman, the London Bridge, the Hoover Dam, the Grand Canyon, the Hualapai Mountains, Las Vegas or Flagstaff). We are so blessed to be living here, so enjoy it. It is a gift from God. And then as a refreshed people of God, we can get back to work deepening our relationships with God in Christ Jesus and finding new ways to love one another and forgive one another as a Christian community.

I plan to take my own summer vacation on August 16th through 22nd. With soaring prices of gas and everything else during this inflation, I won't be going to South Dakota. But I will definitely be enjoying nearby places and the beauty that surrounds us.

So rest, relax, have fun, and enjoy God's blessings in your life.

In Christ's peace,

Fastor Tim





Notes from your Church Council

Pastor's 30th Ordination brunch was well attended, and I think everyone enjoyed the many delicious dishes that were brought by our congregation members. Congratulations again, Pastor Tim.

Then, I understand the Father's Day brats meal was a huge success. So glad so many could stay to celebrate the many fathers, grandfathers and father figures from our congregation. It appears I missed a wonderful gathering.



Your Church Council has made plans to participate in "God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday "which is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Church in America -- one church, freed in Christ to love our neighbor." (From the ELCA website).

On September 11, 2022 we will share a simple lunch after church and then put together Fabric Kits and Personal Care Kits. These will be sent to Lutheran World Relief for distribution where needed. So, to make these kits, donations will be needed. The following are the necessary items for the Kits.

For each *Personal care kit* the needed items are:

One light-weight bath size towel between 20" x 40" and 52" x27", dark colors recommended. Two or three bath-size bars of soap -8 to 9 oz. and brand in original wrapping. One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging. One sturdy comb, packaging removed. One metal nail clippers packaging removed.

For each *Fabric Kit* the needed items are:

Two spools of neutral-colored, general-purpose thread, 250 to 300 yards each. Two pieces of cotton or cotton blend fabric (no knits of 100% polyester). Each piece should match one of the sizes below:

 $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards of 60" wide fabric or 3 yards of 44" wide fabric or 4 yards of 36" wide fabric.

There will be detailed information, as well as a box for your donations in the Narthex. Thanks.

Have a fun summer. Blessings,



Colorado River Conference Celebrates Leaders

On Wednesday, May 4th, 2022, congregations of the Colorado River Conference joined together for dinner and worship to "Celebrate Leaders' who helped us navigate the last two difficult years in ministry.

Rev. Marta Poling Schmitt was the guest preacher and music was provided by our hosts <u>Christ</u> <u>the Servant</u> and <u>New Song</u>, with additional participation from <u>Community Lutheran</u> in Bullhead City, AZ, and Las Vegas churches <u>Living Hope</u>, <u>Saint Andrew</u>, <u>Community</u>, and <u>Holy Spirit</u>. We know we are truly church together, and give thanks to God for the grace and love of Jesus and the Spirit that helps us to persevere in challenging times!



Congratulations to Pastor Tim for his 30th Anniversary of ordination as a pastor in the ELCA — June 7th, 2022









Grand Canyon Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Gad's work, Our hands,

Where does my congregation's mission support go?

Communicate Jesus

- Funds the work of Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Arizona (LAMA) and Lutheran Engagement and Advocacy in Nevada (LEAN), and supports Arizona Faith Network (AFN)
- Contributes funds to Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, California Lutheran University, and supports 3 Lutheran Campus Ministries (UofA, ASU, NAU)
- Expands ministry and resources to serve the poor and provide basic needs to 70,000+ through partnership with <u>Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest</u> (LSS-SW) and <u>Lutheran Social Services of Nevada</u> (LSSN)
- Nurtures companion synod relationship (Senegal) and develops new synodical relationships (Mexico)
- Funds **22 project grants** for congregations and organizations to better Communicate Jesus, Connect People, and Create Possibilities
- Supports Lutheran Disaster Response and Lutheran
 World Relief
- Supports ELCA membership in the Lutheran World Federation: 145 members for ecumenical work and world service relief and development

Create Possibilities

- Supports & oversees 5 congregational renewals and 8 new starts across the synod
- Organizes candidacy process supporting 23 candidates in the process for ordination and 7 candidates in discernment
- Supports pastors and deacons in mobility and leadership
- Supports 17 congregations in transition
- Funds ACTS grants for 8 congregations under development and renewal, or strategic ministry
- Works in collaboration with Rocky Mountain Synod on Lilly <u>3F</u> program (Stewardship for all Seasons, Beginning a Culture of Generosity, Ministerial Excellence Fund, Vital Right-Shaped Congregations)
- Applies funds from church property sale to encourage diverse and new emerging ministries

Connect People

35%

33%

32%

- Shares mission support dollars with ELCA (churchwide) and Region 2 (southwest)
- Provides a ministry of presence for congregations & pastors during crisis & transition
- Leads Convocation of rostered leaders (active and retired pastors/deacons) for theological discussion and fellowship, and supports the retired pastors' retreat
- Supports and helps lead youth faith formation camp
- Organizes Synod Assembly meeting and voting based on congregational identity
- Participates in Churchwide Assembly, ELCA Youth Gathering, and Rostered Ministers Gathering every 3 years
- Funds Diakonia lay leadership program, 3 cohorts
- Supports the work of Phoenix Fusion and Northeast Valley Consortium (collaborating initiatives)
 Updated May, 2022

Don't let your offerings take a holiday

Ahhh, summer! A time to relax and grab muchneeded R & R. Vacations and weekend getaways may keep you away from church, but our congregation is still bustling with activity. The bills never take a summer holiday.

It's enormously helpful to the congregation's balance sheet if your gifts, tithes and offerings continue to come in regularly, even if you are away. Here are some ideas for staying current:

Pay in advance: Plan ahead by offering more in the weeks in advance of your time away from church.

Make it up: When you return, give a little more in the weeks that follow.

Use your envelopes: Here's a tip that's good not only for summer, but year-round: If you use giving envelopes and checks, simply prepare them weeks in advance and bring them to church when convenient.

Use banking bill pay: Most online banking services

will write and send checks for you. Just plug in the church address, the amount of the gift and how often you want it sent. Viola! You're done!

Enroll in electronic giving: Use the congregation's online giving portal to regularize your gift, tithe or offering.

Give monthly or quarterly: Sometimes it's hard to anticipate how many Sundays you'll be away from church. Planning your gift, tithe or offering for monthly or quarterly can keep you current. Of course, these methods are beneficial not only for the summer months, but also for the whole year through. Those who embrace giving as a spiritual discipline often find that their lives of faith are enriched, and their sense of joy and fulfillment is deepened. Choosing a regular-giving strategy can help you to discover the joys of generosity.

--Rob Blezard

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A Cup of Generosity:

The Tie between Thankfulness and Generosity

Pastor Dana Karen Reardon and the Grand Canyon Synod Stewardship Team

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Philippians 4:6

Have you ever seen somebody going through a really tough time during Thanksgiving and wondered how they could feel thankful? Or know people who are really poor and wonder how they could be generous?

I remember when I was in India I went to visit a family and all the wife had to offer me for refreshment was bread and butter (and not some lovely naan but plain white American looking bread, although come to think of it maybe that was even more of her generosity since that was what she thought I would prefer.) They had so little and yet there was a generosity of spirit.

What I have learned over the years is that thankfulness and generosity are intrinsically tied together and yet neither has very much to do with one's circumstances or fortunes.

When I retired the first time (not unusual for pastors) one of the homeless men who came to our soup kitchen gave me a card with \$20 in it. My guess is he sold some of his food stamps. I wanted to give it back to him because I knew he had so little. And yet that would have denied him the opportunity to thank me and to be generous.

People who have much and give generously get buildings named after them or streets and yet some of the most generous people I have ever met give not because they are wealthy but because they just want to give or perhaps feel compelled to give by the generous nature of God

I want to be one of those people. Sometimes I think I succeed, but often I worry that if I am too generous I will find myself in need. In those times I only hope that I can come to understand that it just provides an opportunity for someone else to be generous and help me and I have one more reason then to be thankful.

This is really what the Christian life looks like: Thankfulness and generosity to each other and for each other and for the world.



CLC Women's Bible Study

Our *women's bible study* has started!

The women are meeting every second Tuesday of every month here at the church, at 10:00 AM. All the ladies of the church are welcome to join us! Stay tuned for uncoming events and projects!

Stay tuned for upcoming events and projects!



<u>Birthdays & Anniversaries</u>

<u>July Birthdays</u>

- 5—Betty Nelson
- 6—Christina Hoffmeyer
- 18—Bonnie Swandal
- 20—Richard Grumbine
- 24—Lynn Brooks
- 29—Don Oman
- 29—Ken Grondahl
- 31—Barbara Leuthauser



<u>August Birthdays</u>

2—Charles Sorby 2—Gwen Gonzales 5—Reva Sparks 8—Karen Miller 13—John Casson 14—Kyle Schuh 15—Lynda Crawford 17—Geline Ostgaard 17—Gail Shaver 17—Chuck Wickersham 19—Susan Brusby 19—Janelle Redmann 23—Jean Oman 26—Pastor Tim Eighmy 28—Dawn Redmann 29—Sandy Sockwell 29—Trinity Schuh 31—Grant Nelson



<u>July Anniversary</u>

27—Richard & Linda Grumbine (58)

<u>August Anniversaries</u>

3—Chad & Tori Lelm (9) 4—Doug & Vicky Dyrdahl (45)

- 18—Mack & Peggy Boone (43)
- 20—James & Carol Smock (56)
- 21—Grant & Betty Nelson (67)



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to pray for all the persons whose names have been offered up by members and friends of the congregation. We pray for healing, comfort, guidance, strength, recovery, safe travel, and unrevealed needs, as well as for those with thankful hearts and for those who grieve.

Let us remember the ones God called home out of our midst, and keep their families and friends in our prayers:





If you know someone who would like to be included in the ongoing monthly prayer list, be it for prayer or thanksgiving, please let the office know!

July	2022					
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						2
9:00 AM Worship Service	4 INDEPEND- ENCE DAY Office Closed	5	6	7 9:00 am Bible study 10:30 WMCM	8	9
10 9:00 AM Worship Service	11 Office Closed	12 10:00 am Women's Bible study	13	14 9:00 am Bible study 6:00 pm Council Meeting	15	16
17 9:00 AM Worship Service	18 Office Closed	19	20	21 9:00 am Bible study	22	23
24 9:00 AM Worship Service (Noisy Offering)	25 Office Closed	26	27	28 9:00 am Bible study	29	30
31 9:00 AM Worship Service						

August 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Office Closed	2	3	4 9:00 am Bible study	5	6
9:00 AM Worship Service	8 Office Closed	9 10:00 am Women's Bible study	10	11 9:00 am Bible study 6:00 pm Council Meeting	12	13
14 9:00 AM Worship Service	15 Office Closed	16	17 Pa	18 No Bible Study! Istor on Vaca	19 tion	20
21 9:00 AM Worship Service	22 Office Closed	23	24	25 9:00 am Bible study	26	27
28 9:00 AM Worship Service (Noisy Offering)	29 Office Closed	30	31			

Community Lutheran Church

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