

# DISCIPLEGRAM

MAKING DISCIPLES WHO SHARE THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST  
IN THESE COMMUNITIES AND WITH PEOPLE EVERYWHERE

July/August 2024

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## Can we PLEASE get moving?

I don't know how summer road trips work for you and your families, but mine tend to go something like this...

We had planned to leave by 9 AM, but, after a few snoozes of the alarm, we're already off to a rough start. Those last few items on the packing list turn out to be harder to locate than I had thought, so I end up yelling questions across the house. Do you remember if we packed the sleeping bags?! I make coffee while we do breakfast with the kids and manage their ever-changing preferences. But you LOVE cheerios and blueberries. Why are you demanding yogurt instead? We finally pack up the car, and start rolling out the driveway at 9:45. Only 45 minutes late. Could be worse. Just as we merge onto the highway, Adele asks the important question: "You remembered to pack-up the toiletries after you brushed your teeth, right?" This frustrated prayer goes through my head at least once on the drive back home: Can we PLEASE get moving?

As the disciples first set out to work for Jesus' mission, they might've muttered this same frustrated prayer. After all, they had just witnessed the impossible! They saw their friend and teacher die on a cross and then rise from the dead! They saw him, talked with him, learned why this was all part of God's plan for salvation, and Jesus promised great things to them saying, "But you will receive power

when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8). They were going to continue Jesus' ministry and tell the whole world! But, in the meantime, they had to wait. It was ten days of waiting after the Ascension until they saw the power of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. And, after that, they had more waiting and false-starts. They faced pushback and opposition to God's mission. They witnessed their friends and families thrown into jail and beaten for the sake

of their mission. Although they made ground and saw the work of the Holy Spirit, they also had to sort out theological debates about Old Testament law. Every time they got moving, they faced a new and unique struggle. At every turn, their progress was slowed by every force the Devil could throw their way. Can we PLEASE get moving?

This frustration is not foreign to our church either. This year, our congregation is taking intentional steps to grow in mission. We are spending this year learning and growing in living missional lives that serve God in everything we do. We want to reach the needs of our community and share the love of God impactfully with those around us. But...it takes time. It takes waiting. It takes patience. There will be seasons of progress where we will experience the joy of being a part of God's mission. But, there will also be times for sorting out details and plans. And, even when we get moving, we will certainly experience failures and setbacks along the way. We will turn to one another in frustration and ask, Can we PLEASE get moving?

And yet, the promise that the disciples had is ours too. Jesus said, "Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matt. 28:20). We don't go alone. Every step of the way—from planning, to execution, to setbacks, to failures, to rethinking, to trying again—is done in the presence of the Almighty God. The One who opened the eyes of the blind and rose from the dead is with us now, every step of the way. Because of this, we can have the confidence that God will work through us to accomplish his glory. We can have the assurance that our efforts are only done to support God's work of forgiving sins and redeeming the world. And, yes, we can even have the patience to trust that God is working in our every move and every step along the way.

It's God's mission and he invites us to be a part of it. It's my privilege as your pastor that I get to be a witness and supporter to what God is doing through each one of you.

In Christ,

*Pastor Joel Werner*  
Pastor Joel Werner

### STAFF

**Rev. Dean M. Davenport**  
*Senior Pastor*

**Rev. Joel A. Werner**  
*Associate Pastor*

**Tom Schroeder**  
*Director of Music Ministry*

**Josh Kittleman**, *Director of*  
*Christian Family Life Formation*

**Laura Myers**, *Director of the Early*  
*Childhood Program*

**Linda Hollman**, *Assistant to the*  
*Pastor in Assimilation, Outreach &*  
*Women's Ministry*

**Karla Schettenhelm**, *Assistant to*  
*the Pastor in Children's Ministry*

**Jill Reinert**  
*Business Manager*

**Laurie Riegel**  
*Administrative Assistant*

**Alyssa Knock**  
*Communications Coordinator*

### MISSIONARIES

**Rev. David Erber**—*Nigeria*

**Rev. Charles Ferry**—*Indonesia*

**Rev. Steven Mahlburg**—*Macau*

**Rev. James and Deaconess**  
**Christel Neuendorf**—*Puerto Rico*



# Where Children Learn Daily About Jesus

## Christ Our Savior's Early Childhood Program



This would normally be the time of the year when our COS Early Childhood Program (ECP) Director Laura Myers would be writing an “end of year” article in the Disciplegram. However, I practically begged her if I could write the article this time. Though I wasn’t in the classroom daily, I was a regular witness to the excellent things that the Lord has done through the ECP at Christ Our Savior this past year.

As someone who has observed many congregations with Early Childhood Programs, I have to say that our ECP is truly something special. We have top notch teachers and staff who are incredibly loving to the children. Every child is bound to have some rough days, and I am a witness to how loving and patient our ECP staff is as they help each child work through the strong emotions that they are experiencing. The classroom environment is undoubtedly vibrant and fun!

One challenge that many churches with Early Childhood Programs face is that the ECP can easily become disconnected from the overall work of the church that established it. If the relationship isn’t nurtured, Early Childhood programs can begin to act as a separate entity from a congregation and perhaps even lose focus from the mission they were created for. This is definitely not the case with our ECP program at COS! As I mentioned earlier, the children who attend our Early Childhood Program learn daily about Jesus. The love of Jesus Christ is reflected in everything from how children are disciplined to what they learn in the classroom. This often spills into the children’s homes. We hear regularly from parents about how the children talk about Jesus with them at home!

This doesn’t mean, however, that we shouldn’t try to strengthen the connections between our



and Tim Hortons coffee. This has given us an opportunity to get to know the parents better,

and it allows parents to familiarize themselves with those who interact with their children during chapels on Wednesdays.



Additionally, we held our Children's Christmas program during our advent service this year.

Joining the ECP children and COS Sunday School children in worship not

only brought visibility of the ECP to the congregation, but allowed ECP families to see the church in worship as we celebrated the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ who is the reason for the season! We encourage you to join us for that celebration again in December.



So, how can we all at COS continue to support the work of our Early Childhood Program? **First and foremost**, please continue to pray for our ECP staff and all the children who come through our doors on a daily basis.



Pray that God continues to use His Word—which is shared with the children daily—to work in the hearts of the children and their families. **Next**, I'd encourage you to say "thank you" to any of our ECP staff as you see them. They work tirelessly to ensure the growth of our children.

**Finally**, to operate an Early Childhood Program in the state of Michigan, strict licensing guidelines and safety

standards must be followed. This means that the Early Childhood/Gym entrance is locked between 7 a.m. & 6 p.m, Mon-Fri. Parents and ECP staff are instructed not to let anyone they do not recognize through the entrance. This means that members needing to get to the gym/kitchen area will need to use the main church entrance unless arrangements have been made with a ministry leader to allow them access. This also means that church members should refrain from opening the gym entrance door for anyone they do not know. Parents have access to the building with key cards. If approached by someone wishing to enter the building, please contact the director or a staff member to ensure that it is safe to let them in. To ensure a successful Early Childhood ministry, parents must trust that we are doing everything in our power to keep their children safe.

Thank you so much for your assistance and understanding. We are grateful for your support.

**Final Comments**

The ECP finished the 2023-24 school year with their Graduation program on Thursday, May 30! It was a joy to see a sanctuary filled with supporting parents and family members.

The summer program is well underway and the ECP children are enjoying VBS, water days, trips to the local park and pizza lunch days.

Let's praise God for our Early Childhood Program! It is an important part of Christ Our Savior's mission to "make disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ in these communities and with people everywhere."

*-Josh Kittleman*

	<b>Let us know how you'd like to receive the Disciplegram</b>
	If you would like to receive an electronic version of this newsletter, let us know! Email Alyssa Knock at <a href="mailto:alyssak@christoursavior.org">alyssak@christoursavior.org</a> with your request.

# Characteristics of Healthy Youth Ministry

A few years ago, the LCMS released a key report on what it means for a congregation to have a healthy ministry to youth. In this report, they summed up “7 Practices of Healthy Youth Ministry”. I’ll be using some of my upcoming Disciplegram articles to address these 7 practices. But instead of applying them solely to our ministry to young people, I think these practices will benefit ALL of us at COS regardless of our age.

The first practice is that healthy congregations are ones that have “warmth, challenge, and grace”. Let’s take a quick look at how these three terms are defined by the LCMS research.

## Warmth

Warmth is defined as “...a welcome invitation to be with the family of God where we receive God’s forgiveness and love, sharing it freely with others”. It also involves people across generations knowing each other and wanting to get to know each other better. I think most of us see COS as a “warm” congregation. However, there are always ways that we can grow. How can we make COS even more of a warm, inviting place to be?

## Challenge

**“Challenge is being willing to engage in tough spiritual conversations. Standing firmly in God’s Word, it faces the questions and confusion [we] experience living in our current culture.”**

Again, I feel we do this well at COS. But how can we continue to learn to not look down on anyone based on their age or where they are at in their faith, but to value them and walk with them as they grow in their walk with Christ? How can we continue to cultivate spaces—at church and in our homes—where everyone is comfortable sharing their questions and doubts about God? Maybe we don’t want people to share their doubts with us because we don’t think we’ll have the answers that they are seeking. But we need to learn that it’s perfectly

okay to say “I don’t know the answer to that. I’m going to look into that and get back to you!”. How can we remain steadfast in God’s Word without forgetting to show LOVE to all whom we encounter (1 Cor. 13:1)? These are all things to think about when it comes to creating a challenging environment at COS.

## Grace

**“Grace in our relationships and culture echoes God’s love and forgiveness to us. As youth struggle, grow and change, they need parents and supportive adults to constantly remind them of their chief identity as God’s beloved Baptized child.”** Again, we *all* need grace. We do this together in corporate confession and absolution. We do this in our relationships with each other as we freely ask for forgiveness and freely receive it. How can COS continue to be a place of grace for each person?

Warmth, challenge, and grace. Do we truly welcome all to our COS family and incorporate them into our faith family (warmth)? Are we willing to have tough spiritual conversations with people, even if some of their questions make us uncomfortable (challenge)? Are we speaking God’s love and forgiveness into people’s lives (Grace)? Again, it’s not just young people who need these things for their church... we all do! Let’s continue to strive as individual members to reflect these Christ-like characteristics.

If you have any specific ideas on how we as a congregation can grow in these areas, I’d LOVE to have a conversation with you! Have a great rest of your summer!

In Christ,

  
Josh



# Reflections on the Lutheran Adult Gathering



The Lutheran Adult Gathering, put on by the Michigan District, is held every two years. Whether you've never been before, or you've attended many times, mark your calendars for

of staying there and eating there is, well, grand! Being able to be there for a fairly reasonable cost is worth it in itself, but the gathering is so much more!

There are services, singing, speakers, socializing, and more. The time was uplifting, reflective, encouraging, and strengthening. I felt God's presence the whole weekend in everything we heard and did.



the next Lutheran Adult Retreat held this year **October 11-13, 2024**. Why should you consider going? Here are some thoughts from our members who have attended in the past.

It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know others at COS better and fellowship with them joining in worship, learning, and fun together.

In 2022 I said I couldn't wait for the next gathering, and it's time for that this fall. I am looking forward to this focused time in God's presence with hundreds of my closest Lutheran friends!

"The adult gathering is a well organized event. The session topics have always been very good and thought provoking. This event is a great way to socialize with other Lutherans across the state, and with those in your own church. The icing on the cake is getting spoiled by the grandeur and hospitality of the Grand Hotel. We always have a wonderful time." —Lori Wiltenburg

If you have any questions about my experience with the gathering please contact me." —Karla Schettenhelm

Following tradition since 1981, the conference will be held at the magnificent Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. The theme this year is "New Beginnings IN HIS PRESENCE," based on Revelation 21:5. The keynote speakers are Rev. Dr. Jeffery Gibbs and his wife, Renee Gibbs. Entertainment will be provided by comedian Lizzie Boeck, and music will be performed by the group 100 White Flags. The conference chaplain will be Rev. Dr. Ryan Tinetti.



"I went to the Lutheran Adult Gathering on Mackinac Island for the first time in 2022. The gathering is held at the Grand Hotel, and the experience

You can find more information and register online at: [michigandistrict.org/event/lutheran-adult-gathering-2024/](http://michigandistrict.org/event/lutheran-adult-gathering-2024/).

# Answering Your Questions

## Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) applicant Fritz Quitmeyer



And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest”. Luke 10:2

In 2007 the SMP program was initiated by the LCMS in convention. It was established to develop pastors, through a different process than the traditional residential seminary, for specific ministries in congregations and other settings. The program is made up of online education and “intensives” at one of our seminaries. Once admitted to the program and studies begin the student serves as a vicar for two years. After his vicarage he is ordained as pastor and continues his education for another two years.

It wasn't too long ago that COS was being served by three fulltime pastors. When the Lord moved Fritz to consider the pastoral ministry our conversations began. It's clear to me that there is much for him to do, in a part time role, here at COS, in our community and in our circuit and District. Thanks be to God!

Here are some Q's and A's...

- What are the differences between an SMP and general ministry pastors (like pastors Davenport and Werner)? SMP's serve a congregation under direct supervision of a general ministry pastor. In this case Pastor Davenport. They are called to a specific ministry—in our case that of a staff pastor.
- Why is this position desired/needed? The proposed position description includes helping with senior and home bound care, teaching, preaching, community outreach through support groups and support for

circuit/District congregations. There is a need.

- Is this a full time or part time position? It is a part time position, 20 hours or less. Fritz will be able to serve in this position even after his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. COS's policy allows for those that are 70 and older to serve part time.
- What are the Ministry Action Plan (MAP) considerations for 2024? There are no expenses for 2023. The MAP for 2025 has not yet been approved. It is estimated for 2025 that an amount not to exceed \$30K in expenses would cover a portion of the education and compensation involved. Benefits are not offered for part-time positions.
- When is the application deadline? August 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for the SMP application.



Fritz and Ali  
Quitmeyer

The Lord of the harvest is faithful! He supplies often times in ways that we don't anticipate. Please continue to keep our congregation and Fritz in prayers for this potential opportunity to minister and serve. **Plan to attend the special meeting of the congregation on July 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am in the sanctuary.** Your attendance is essential and appreciated to have a quorum for voting.

More detailed information will be made available before the Special Meeting. If you have more questions, comments or concerns, Pastor Davenport and Pastor Werner would be happy to talk to you about this move in our congregation. Also, feel free to bring your questions to the meeting on July 14!



# New Members

## Received on June 2, 2024



*In the life of our church our membership is constantly changing, and we rejoice when we have the opportunity to see it grow. This past June we welcomed new members and we want to give everyone the chance to get to know them better. Here are short biographies from each household to help you get acquainted. If you see any of these faces in the hallway or around church, make sure to say hello and introduce yourself!*

LWML Convention for the first time this June. I have been working hard on trying to remember names and faces and much appreciate everyone's patience when I forget!



My name is **Frank Grocki**. My wife Vicky and I have recently found ourselves in search of a new church home. We are excited to have found COS to fulfill what has been missing in our church life. The people and staff we have met in just a few short months has been a welcome spark in our faith walk! I am a retired architect, a blessed husband, father of three and grandfather to seven, all equally blessed in their Christian families! I enjoy golf, fishing and landscape/gardening. While raised Catholic, God's plans blessed me with Vicky as a Christian partner and led me to the Lutheran (LCMS) family for over 50 years ago now! I look forward to learning God's plans for me at COS.

Hi! My husband, Frank and I (**Vicky Grocki**) have been attending COS for a couple months now and are amazed at the welcome we have received and the energy that is so evident here!

I have been raised in the LCMS, attending Lutheran grade school, high school and college. I am a retired RN and I also had a Christian group child care/preschool in my home, though not at the same time! It was so much fun to be able to watch, not just my own children, but also a parade of infants and toddlers go thru the milestones of early childhood. I hope to be able to be a part of the Women's Ministry at COS. I am planning to attend the Michigan District



**Tom & Diane Ikegami** were married at Christ our Savior five years ago and moved to Cape Coral, Florida to begin a new

adventure together. Family, friends, and the marriage of their sons brought them back to Michigan. Tom worked as an engineer for 45 years and Diane was a second grade teacher. They enjoy music and a variety of hobbies. They are making their home in Plymouth Township.



**Dale & Susan Moser:** We met in high school at Lutheran High West. We will celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in September. We have three sons and three

lovely daughters-in-law. Our greatest blessings are our precious grandchildren – six girls and one boy. Both of us enjoy golfing, spending time up north and trips to the ocean in South Carolina with our family. We are very happy to be returning to Christ Our Savior.



# Just Like You (*Voices of the Disabled*)

By Diane Kaye

I have a disability  
and special needs  
and

I am God's creation  
just like you.

I am blind  
and I need you to speak to me in soft, colorful tones  
so I can picture in my mind  
what my eyes can't see.

I have quite an imagination  
just like you.

I am deaf  
and I need you to speak to my face in normal tones  
without exaggeration  
so I can share your joke.

I have a wonderful sense of humor  
just like you.

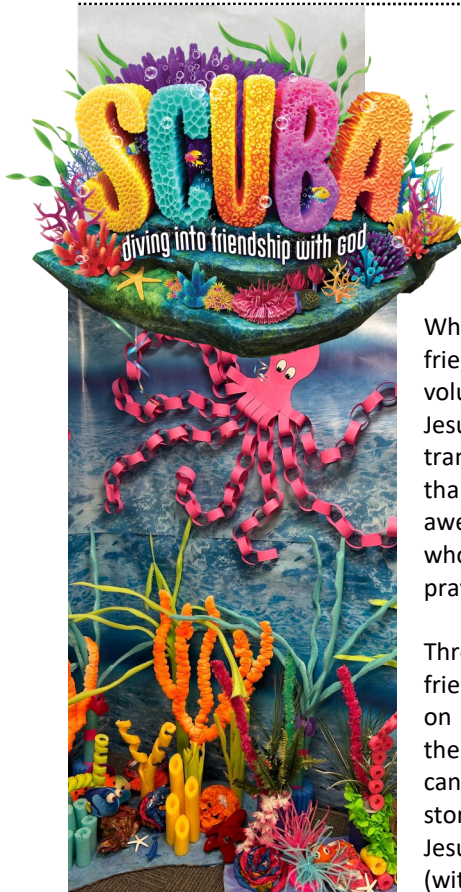
I am a wheelchair user  
and I need you to wait until I ask for assistance  
before you jump in  
with a well meaning attempt to help me  
I need to preserve my dignity and my pride  
just like you.

I am mentally challenged  
and I need you to speak to me with patience and gentleness  
as you acknowledge my presence  
and show me lots of love.

We all have our challenging moments,  
don't you think?

I have a disability  
and I need you to look at all the positives that I possess.  
(So many things that I can do!)  
and let me use my gifts to serve the Lord right beside you.

For I am a child of God  
just like you.



# Kid's Corner

## Vacation Bible School Recap

What an exciting week we had at SCUBA VBS diving into friendship with God! We had 135 children and 60+ volunteers filling our building with the love and joy of Jesus! We also had an amazing team of decorators who transformed our space into an underwater world. A big thanks to all who volunteered to make VBS such an awesome experience! And a big thanks as well to everyone who made snack donations and everyone who kept VBS in prayer!

Throughout the week, kids learned that God is a friend who's real (with the story of the prophet Elijah on Mt. Carmel), God is a friend who loves (through the story of Jonah and the whale), God is a friend we can trust (using the story of Jesus calming the storm), God is a friend forever (through the story of Jesus' resurrection) and God is a friend for everyone (with the story of Lydia believing in Jesus).



# New Beginnings

## Welcome Jill Reinert



Jill has joined the Christ Our Savior staff as Business Manager, taking over the position from Noreen Lenardon. We have already seen her professionalism and experience help her as she learns to fill this role, and we are excited about working with her in the ministry of our church.

Jill joined Christ Our Savior in 2015. She is grateful for sacrificing parents who made Christian Education a priority. Jill graduated from Lutheran High West, Detroit, attended Valparaiso University, Michigan State University and received her bachelor's degree from Madonna University. Jill enjoyed summers with her grandparents in Frankenmuth, hoeing 40 acres of beans for an ice cream cone! The real treat was riding in the back of a dump truck, buried in fresh harvested wheat from the farm, through Frankenmuth on main street, to Star of

the West milling company. Jill also helped her grandfather haul pickles from the fields to the factory. Prior to joining the team at Christ Our Savior, Jill worked for 16 years as Executive Director of Human Resources. Jill has been a volunteer for 20 years at Angela Hospice, providing respite care for families.

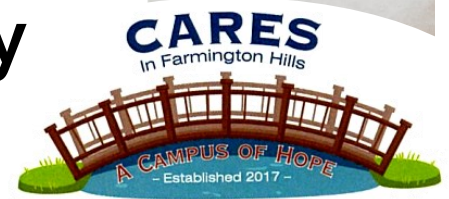
At Christ Our Savior, Jill is a trained Stephen Minister, served on the Personnel Committee, and is part of the Grief Share Ministry team. Her favorite trips she was blessed to experience were to Australia, New Zealand, London, Paris, and Rome. In her younger days she was a thrill seeker, bungee jumping off Kawarau bridge in New Zealand, parasailing, experiencing a hot air balloon ride, and a helicopter ride with a landing on a glacier. Jill enjoys reading, traveling, and staying connected with friends and family.

If you have a chance, stop by the church office to welcome her!



# New Volunteer Opportunity

## CARES in Farmington Hills



“The Mission of CARES is to offer a comprehensive support service for individuals and their families in and around the Farmington Hills area and the eight communities that we serve that are in need or have limited access to everyday necessities due to insufficient financial resources or family instability.

“One of the biggest challenges our society faces is the growing problem of food insecurity. Approximately 1.9 million Michiganders are struggling to buy the healthy food they need. (From the CARES website)

I would like to encourage you to volunteer as a small group or as an individual. It’s not a large time commitment (once per quarter for 3 hours), but your time and talents will go far in their warehouse or food pantry! Please consider spreading our blessings to those that are struggling. If you are interested please call or email me, Jen Kuszynski (313-530-6706, jenkus@bolognaagency.com) or find me in the narthex on a Sunday morning.

If you would like to learn more about CARES of Farmington please visit this website: <https://caresfh.org/>

# Missional Living

## Results from June 6 Workshop



Over 60 congregation members gathered on June 6<sup>th</sup> in the COS gym to brainstorm on areas of need for our congregation to address. What a great turnout! Those in attendance included members of church staff, Council, Board of Elders, and members-at-large from the congregation.

The purpose of the workshop was to collect Missional Needs ideas that would support COS’ Missional Living emphasis as depicted in the graphic to the right.

And collect we did...we ended up with 25 need areas identified that addressed needs here at COS, within the community here in Livonia and SE Michigan, and across the world. As a final exercise the group voted on which ideas they felt were “top of the list” for COS to consider addressing as a top priority. The list of ideas recorded, along with the voting results can be found on the church’s website, on the *Missional Living* page under the tab *Connect*.

The intent is to do more than just collect ideas ... the next step will be to analyze these results to determine what needs COS can begin addressing as a church body. The Missional

Living Planning Team has already started work on this analysis, and we expect to have some specific next steps determined in the next few weeks. Stay tuned for more information to come out later this summer, and stay curious about the needs of our community in the meantime! This workshop might be over, but the needs of our neighbor are not! What struggles are being experienced by the people around you? And how is God preparing you to respond to them?

Thanks to all who participated in this workshop! The ideas are terrific and we’re looking forward to seeing what God has in store for us all as we begin to address, with God’s help and blessing, these identified needs.

*The Missional Living Planning Team—Pastor Davenport, Pastor Werner, Josh Kittleman, Laura Myers, Linda Hollman, Erik Kuszynski, and Mark Anders*

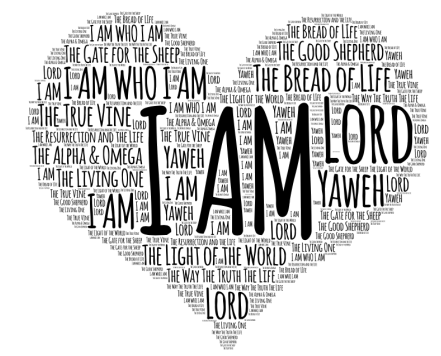
### MISSIONAL LIVING



STUDY

WORSHIP

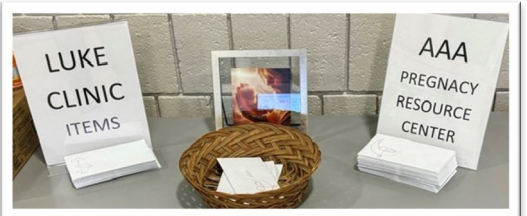




Thanks to everyone who was involved in planning and running the conference!



Donations were collected for the Luke Clinic and AAA Pregnancy Resource Center



# Women's Ministry

## News and Updates

"Be still, and  
know that I  
am God"  
(Psalm 46:10a)

### I AM says I am...

**Women's Retreat Recap, April 19-20, 2024**



Thanks and blessings to all of you who attended the Women's Retreat in April. Although most attendees were from COS, many of them were friends of our church members, LWML Zone members and others from outside our immediate COS family. We reached our attendance goal of 120 and received positive feedback. One concern noted from feedback was to limit the event to one day going forward. We will in the future address this. Look for information regarding topic, speaker, date and place of the next women's retreat coming Spring of 2025. Enjoy the photos from the event on this page and on the left! Thanks to all of the hands that helped make this happen.

### LWML Michigan District

**Highlights and Convention News**

As of April 2024 Mite Donations for the Michigan District: Biennium Goal: \$386,000 Biennium giving was met.

The grants presented for the 2024 Michigan District Convention vote was completed on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Results will be presented at the Michigan District convention in Grand Rapids June 28-30. Watch for updates on our church website and posted by the Mite Box located by the entry in the narthex.

Pastor Joel Werner is the Wayne Oak Hills Zone Counselor. Dianne Sherman and Pastor Werner are attending the LWML convention in June in Grand Rapids.

#### **Banner for the Convention**

The theme for the Michigan District LWML is *Taste and Taste and See that the Lord is good. Psalm 34:8*. We were asked by the Wayne Oak Hills Zone to make a banner for the Rally. Amy Davenport, Ruth Dobberfuhr, Patsy Domingo, Marie Schlosser and Dianne Sherman helped design and put together the 3' x 5' banner for our zone. The banner will be in the procession at the convention and on display there with the banners from each LWML zone in Michigan. Thanks ladies. After the convention, the banner will be on display at our church after the convention and through Women's Ministry month in October. It will then travel to each of the other zone churches. At the end of the two years it will come back to COS.

The final  
banner design  
for the LWML  
Convention



Lord Jesus, grant that my loved ones and I may know and find peace in the most important certainty of all time. Your love which guards us in all troubles and leads us through all uncertainties. For you live and reign with the Father and Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## COS in Mission 2024

### *School Supplies for School Totes*

Let Jesus light shine in communities around the world to children in need of basic school supplies.

WOW will supply the totes for this endeavor. We are asking members to purchase a basic list of supplies to fill these totes. The goal is to fill 300 to be distributed to children throughout the world by Lutheran World Relief as we have been doing in past years. If each family/or individual member participates we can easily reach the goal. Again, the totes will be provided at no cost to you. We only ask that you purchase the items on the list. Watch for Back to School sales. Sign-up sheets and apples with the list of supplies to fill the tote will be available at the Welcome Desk. All School Kit items will need to be turned in no later than Sunday, September 29.

Prayerfully consider participating in this Mission Opportunity. If you have any questions contact Dianne Sherman (734-812-5172), Joanna Eiwien (734-812-6035) or contact the church office.

## Game Night for the Grown-Ups

WOW would like to have you join us for GAME NIGHTS slated for 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month, from 6:30-9 p.m. A night of fellowship, comradery, a little competition, fun and laughter. What game (s) you ask? A little euchre, board games, Uno, dominoes, Yahtzee, five crowns, whatever you choose Bring a game or two that you enjoy playing. We will have sign-up sheets available two Sundays prior at the Welcome Desk. Bring your own beverage, and a snack to share. Coffee and water will be provided. Hope to see many of you there. If you have any questions, contact Dianne Sherman at 734-812-5172.

## Memorials and Gifts

<b>In memory of Erna Heck</b>	<b>Intended for:</b>	<b>Given by:</b>
	Food Pantry	Anonymous, Caleigh & Trent Gilchrist, Joe & Teresa Hearn, John & Marilyn Kluka, Susan Murray, Harmony Nowlin & Don Stabenow, Bill & Debbie Reynolds, Katharine Stasevich
	Family of God Ministry	Family & Friends of Erna Heck, Linda Marzinski, Stuart & Elizabeth Schluckebier, Susan Thomson
<b>In Memory of:</b>	<b>Intended for:</b>	<b>Given by:</b>
Eddie Sloan & Adam Malecki	Family of God Ministry	Sandy & Gary Luoma
Eugene Rogers	Music Ministry	Gordon & Edith Raezler
Mary Wludyka	Music Ministry	Gordon & Edith Raezler
Greg Barnier	Building Maintenance/ Landscaping	Dorothy Barnier
Mary Wludyka	General Fund	Ronald & Susan Meyer
Wally Bickel	Food Pantry	John & Eunice Smith
<b>In Honor of:</b>	<b>Intended for:</b>	<b>Given by:</b>
Helena Hatten	Mission Trip to South	Julie Madden

# Membership Updates

## As of June 10, 2024



To keep the congregation better informed about the membership of our church, the Board of Elders includes membership updates in each Disciplegram. Every two months, a report is published of gains and losses and the reason for each change.

There are no unreachable members to include in this report.

#### Deceased Individuals:

- Lucy Scott on Apr 3
- Ron Kosmalski on Jun 9

#### Received by Confirmation:

- Kaitlyn Arnold on May 5

#### Received by Transfer from other LCMS:

- Frank Grocki on June 2
- Vicky Grocki on June 2
- Diane Ikegami on June 2
- Tom Ikegami on June 2

#### Received by Profession of Faith:

- Dale Moser on June 2
- Susan Moser on June 2

#### Removed by Transfer to other LCMS:

- Irwin Jopps on April 22
- Karen Jopps on April 22
- Judith Wolfram on May 20
- Richard Wolfram on May 20

#### Removed by Peaceful Release:

- Laura Briggs on May 20
- Devlan Early on May 20
- Gavan Early on May 20
- Nolan Early on May 20
- Anna Frauenheim on May 20
- Jackson Frauenheim on May 20
- William Frauenheim on May 20
- Sherrie Janisse on May 20
- Carol Masek on May 20
- Lindsay Masek on May 20
- Allen Plocinik on May 20
- Jessica Plocinik on May 20
- Laura M. Plocinik on May 20
- Laura J. Plocinik on May 20
- Lila Scott on May 20
- Amber Stevens on May 20
- Jesse Stevens on May 20

## This is YOUR Newsletter!

The Disciplegram is published six times a year and welcomes your submissions. If you have a news report, poem, artwork, short story or article that you would like to share, pass it on to our Communications Coordinator, Alyssa Knock ([alysak@christoursavior.org](mailto:alysak@christoursavior.org)).

We reserve the right to make final decisions on what is published. We try to print articles as submitted, but will edit if necessary. Items will be included as space allows.

This is YOUR newsletter. Feel free to use it!



# The Lighter Side

Why did the hawk sit on the church's steeple? *It was a bird of pray.*

What sort of lights were on Noah's Ark? *Flood lights.*

What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden? *Your mother ate us out of house and home.*

Why did Eve want to leave the Garden of Eden and move to New York? *She fell for the Big Apple.*

Who was the smartest man in the Bible? *Abraham. He knew a Lot.*

## John 3:16

**God** — the greatest lover

**So loved** — the greatest degree

**The World** — the greatest company

**That He gave** — the greatest act

**His only begotten Son** — the greatest gift

**That whosoever** — the greatest opportunity

**Believeth** — the greatest simplicity

**In Him** — the greatest attraction

**Should not perish** — the greatest promise

**But** — the greatest difference

**Have** — the greatest certainty

**Everlasting life** — the greatest possession

# Food for Thought

"The God who pursued humanity from heaven to earth, who entangled himself in the foul and twisted ways of a world gone mad, until finally he was swallowed by the grave--this God will pursue each of us. He will move heaven and earth to find us. There is no escaping the God who fills even the deepest, darkest cracks into which we fall."

Chad Bird  
*Night Driving: Notes from a Prodigal Soul*  
Chapter 9

## Community Connections Summer Barbeque



Welcome to our Summer Barbeque being held at Christ Our Savior Lutheran on Friday, July 19 at 6:30 pm. This family-oriented event provides a wonderful opportunity to fellowship with others while enjoying good food and activities. The church will provide the hamburgers and hot dogs and those attending are asked to bring either a salad/side dish or dessert. Families of all ages are welcome to have fun with a bouncy house, water guns, corn hole, or card games! Or feel free to bring your family's favorite game to share!



Friends and families of Christ Our Savior members are invited to register via the QR code to give the committee an idea of how many to expect.