

July/August 2025

Christ Our Savior
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod



DISCIPLEGRAM

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

In This Update

- The Spiritual Gift of Gab
- Recap of True North VBS
- Connecting with Others in our Community, Part 2
- Partner with a Student
- Providing for the Poor
- This is YOUR Newsletter!
- Learning to Facilitate Family Discipleship
- Congratulations Marge Macy!
- Wonder
- New Members
- The Widow's Mite
- The Life of a Preacher
- Summertime at the ECP
- Membership Updates
- Memorials and Gifts
- Classifieds
- The Lighter Side

The Spiritual Gift of Gab

This May, Adele and I took a cruise in the Caribbean. It was wonderful—sunshine, relaxation, and island excursions. But something else happened that's rare in today's digital age: conversations! Lots of them. Being stuck on a boat together opened people up to talking in ways we don't often experience. I chatted with passengers from around the country and the world about life—their vacations, jobs, what they won (or lost) at the casino, and more. It was clear people are craving connection.

And it's not just cruise ship behavior. It's summertime now, and I've noticed the same thing happening everywhere. As temperatures rise, so do our chances to interact—with neighbors, people at restaurants, the Spree, on little league bleachers. During winter, we tend to tuck ourselves away in our homes and cars, interacting (if at all) through social media and texting. But summer pulls people out. Maybe it's the weather. Maybe it's screen fatigue. Or maybe it's just an introvert's nightmare playing out. Whatever it is, I'd call it this: God's Mission to share His love.

As Lutherans, we firmly believe that God calls us to love our neighbors—and summer gives us more neighbors than any other season. Our doctrine becomes practice when we take time to be neighbors to the people God places in our path. This is where our understanding of vocation becomes beautifully practical. You don't need to be a pastor to minister! Every believer is called to love their neighbor, and that starts just by talking! Whether they're sitting next to you at fireworks or sharing your beach table, God works

through your conversations.

So here's my gentle summer exhortation: practice small hospitality. Offer the cold drink. Share the extra chair. Ask about the family photo on their phone. Invite the acquaintance over to the barbecue. Love without agenda—not because you're trying to get somewhere spiritually, but because you've been loved by God first, and that love naturally overflows.

Now, I know what some of you are thinking: "Pastor, do I just chitchat? When do I actually talk about Jesus? How do I know when the moment is right?" My response is this: trust God. The timing is up to Him alone. It may happen in a day or a month or a year. They'll ask about the peace you show in stress, or your hope in the face of difficulty. Or maybe just, "What do you do on Sundays?" That's not a coincidence. That's the result of trust built on a relationship that began from simply talking and loving as a neighbor.

And when that moment comes, the Holy Spirit doesn't stutter. He speaks through you. Not necessarily with perfect or polished words, but with real ones—spoken from your heart that has been shaped by grace.

This is what we mean when we talk about "Being Lutheran". It's not just doctrine in our heads, but doctrine lived out with our neighbors. Our theology of grace becomes practice through unearned kindness. Our understanding of vocation becomes real when we see every summer encounter as part of God's mission. And the good news? You already have everything you need—God's love for you, your own story of His faithfulness, and the Holy Spirit as your guide.

So grab your flip-flops and lean into the calling of summer hospitality. Talk to the people around you. That family next to you at the little league game isn't there by accident. God is already working in their hearts—and He's invited you to be part of the story.

STAFF

Rev. Dean M. Davenport
Senior Pastor

Rev. Joel A. Werner
Associate Pastor

Fritz Quitmeyer
Vicar

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*

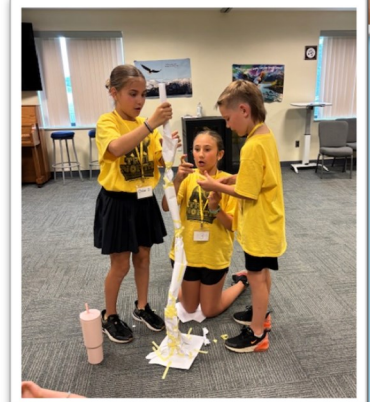
Rev. James and Deaconess
Christel Neuendorf—*Puerto Rico*



Pastor Joel Werner

Recap of True North VBS

Featured
Ministry



We had the ultimate Northern adventure at VBS learning about Jesus, our faithful friend we can always trust! We had 167 children registered and 100 volunteers filling our building with the love and joy of Jesus, our True North!

In addition to the volunteers during VBS week, we had an amazing team of decorators who transformed our space into the Great North. A big THANKS to all who volunteered to make VBS such an awesome experience including everyone who made snack donations and everyone who kept VBS in prayer!

Throughout the week we learned that We Can Trust Jesus! On Monday we heard the Bible story of John preparing the way and baptizing Jesus, and we learned that when we wonder, we can trust Jesus. On Tuesday we learned the Bible story of Jesus teaching about God's love for us including the parable of the lost sheep, and we discovered that when we feel alone, we can trust Jesus. On Wednesday we learned about a Roman officer who trusted Jesus, and

we saw that when we feel powerless, we can trust Jesus. On Thursday we heard about Jesus' death and resurrection and learned that when we need hope, we can trust Jesus.

And on Friday we learned the Bible story of Jesus giving the Great Commission and the Holy Spirit coming, and we discovered that when we need help, we can trust Jesus. We were immersed in these stories and Bible points as we rotated through stations including the Bible story, crafts, music, snacks, active games, and the always awesome Nutty Scientist!

What an incredible adventure we had at True North VBS! Jesus is our True North. He is our way home. He is our guide in this world that's so wild! We can trust Jesus!

— Karla Schettenhelm



Connecting with Others in Our Community

The Apostle's Creed in Our Lives, Part 2

In telling the story of Christianity from the Apostle's Creed, we move to the Second Article of the Creed. "I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the quick and the dead."

So how do we talk about Jesus to those in our community? Again, remember the words of the Apostle's Creed, and specifically the Second Article with Luther's explanation from the Small Catechism. Most of us memorized it, it is still in the back of our brain, just bring it out and speak it.

God made man special from all His creation by giving us free will, not instinct like the animals. Unfortunately, man fell away from God by not obeying His command and thus fell into sin. Yet in God's love for us He promised a Savior who would take the punishment for our sin in our place. This Second Article is the story of Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus is the One foretold by the prophets 700 years before His birth, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son and shall call His name Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14. His mother Mary was told by the angel that Jesus is the Son of God, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore

the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God." Luke 1:35.

In God's plan for our being redeemed from our sinfulness, God sent Jesus to bear our sins. Again, Isaiah prophesied about what would happen, "Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions: He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:4-5. His suffering was the punishment we deserved. As Luther explained in the Small Catechism, "(He) has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death." (LSC) Through these words which we have learned, we can tell people of what Jesus endured for us.

Yet, the story is not over, for in order for Christ's victory over sin to be complete, He was raised from the dead, declaring His power over sin, death, and the devil. He was seen alive by over 500 witnesses prior to His ascension into heaven. It is because of His resurrection from the dead that we too will be raised. "Because I live, you also will live." John 14:19.

It is Christ's purpose to bring us into a renewed

relationship with God, allowing us to stand righteous before Him. "That I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness." (LSC)

Since Christ sits at the right hand of God, we are assured that He intercedes for us with the Father. It is for the sake of the shedding of His precious blood that the Father has mercy upon us and gives us His grace. "But if anyone does sin, we have an

Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous." 1 John 2:1. Jesus is the satisfaction for the demands of God's Law.

So we await His return in glory when He will judge the world, and those who have faith in Him will be saved. Next month, we will use the Third Article of the Apostle's Creed to help people understand how faith is attained and maintained.

-Steven Kern, St. Paul, Millington, MI

Partner with a Student

College Cares Ministry



We have been pleased to hear from many of you regarding this ministry and the impact its having on our students post high school. We would like to have more partners in this ministry to ensure that it stays a vital part of our kids lives as they forge a new path after high school.

If you are interested in partnering with us we would ask you to adopt a college/trade school student for the upcoming school year, September-May. You can decide how to care for them be it letters, small tokens throughout the year so they know they are being prayed for and thought of, birthday holiday etc.

If you want to share a student with another family and take turns that is an option. There are endless possibilities to connect with our COS students. The committee will provide all the pertinent information to you regarding your particular student.

In order to give you a better idea of what is involved in adopting a student, we have an expectation list at the welcome desk. Feel free to take one and prayerfully consider connecting with a student this upcoming school year. I know it touched the lives of the students we had enrolled this year and we would like to see that continue.

The committee will do the match ups of students with families and make sure you have the information you need to be successful.

We will be taking names of interested families through July. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk or you can contact any committee member as well.

Again thank you for being such a loving and generous part of the COS family and we hope this will impact not only our college students but each family as well.

Committee Members:

Jen Kuszynski
jenkus@bolognaagency.com
313-530-6706

Josh Kittleman
joshk@christoursavior.org
586-453-9399

Jennifer Rumberger
jenberger75@yahoo.com
734-718-3080

Mary McGrath
mcgrath2@comcast.net
313-310-5868



Suann Dibble (l) and Kaye Wolff (r) display a dress and pair of britches headed for Kenya

Thirteen women attended Little Stitches of Hope on June 2 at the Summit in Canton. Eighty dresses and twelve britches were collected. These creations will be delivered to Point of Grace Academy in Kisumu, Kenya.

Kaye Wolff, Lutheran Women's Missionary League District Planner & Mentor, picked up the garments and will transport them to the missionary who is bound for Kenya.

Kaye shared photos of students who received the dresses and britches that were sewn by Canton's Little Stitches of Hope and women in FL-GA District LWML during her August, 2024 trip.

Kaye lives in Southfield and worships at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Dearborn where her husband, Rev. Paul Wolff, serves as assistant pastor. In 2023 Kaye received the Christus Vivit award from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis for exemplary service to the church. She is learning American Sign Language and encourages others to learn basic ASL and deaf culture. She mentors

Providing for the Poor

Update on Little Stitches of Hope

hearing impaired women into active participation in LWML groups.

Thank you to Marilyn Southers who delivers fabric and notions to Canton. Sorting through fabric and collecting pillowcases is a huge task. Little Stitches of Hope could never accomplish production of dresses and britches without the generosity of Christ Our Savior Church members and Canton community support.

October 6 is the next meeting of Little Stitches of Hope. The dresses and britches collected will be donated to

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Volunteers will pack the garments into shoe boxes along with other gifts and shipped to foreign countries in time for Christmas distribution.

Can you see yourself involved in a ministry that provides new garments to children living in poverty? Your prayers are requested and always appreciated. Thank *you*.

—Suann Dibble



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 (alyssak@choursavior.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!



Learning to Facilitate Family Discipleship:

Reflections from CCF Training

"And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." - Deuteronomy 6:6-7

From May 12-15, I had the incredible privilege of attending the Concordia Center for the Family (CCF) Facilitator Training at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. To be completely transparent, I really struggled going into the training with a positive attitude. After 23 years of serving in the area of Family Life Ministry, you can get deceived into thinking that you know everything. Thankfully, the Holy Spirit changed my attitude, and it ended up being a fantastic experience that deepened my understanding of family discipleship and the cultural context that we are in right now in 2025.

As I've written in previous Disciplegram articles, family ministry involves that delicate balance between fostering intergenerational connections, supporting age-specific ministries, and equipping families to grow in faith *at home*. "The CCF training took these concepts and provided both the theological foundation and practical tools to help participants take the next necessary steps in making this vision a reality in their congregations."

The Paradigm Shift We Need

The training began with what CCF calls "Key Point 1"—the paradigm shift that must happen in our thinking about faith formation. As I've shared in various settings at COS, many churches have operated under the assumption that spiritual growth happens primarily within the church building, through church programs. But God's design shows us something different.

The training introduced us to the "Four Arenas of Faith Formation": Home, Intergenerational, Age-Specific, and the integration of all three. What struck me most was how this framework validates what I've been discussing in my articles about the

importance of our congregation acting as an intergenerational family while also supporting what happens in our individual households. We learned that the home arena isn't just one option among many—it's the primary place where faith is formed and nurtured. This doesn't diminish the importance of congregational ministry; rather, it helps us understand how home and congregation can work together as true partners.

Creational Wisdom: God's Master Plan

One of the most profound concepts we explored was "Creational Wisdom"—God's design for how families are meant to function in raising children in the faith. This isn't human wisdom or contemporary parenting advice; it's wisdom that comes from God's Word and reflects His design for creation. Mart Thompson, a professor at our St. Louis seminary, is writing a book on this subject and he helped lead the discussion on this subject during our training.

He helped us understand how God has creationally positioned and equipped homes to raise children in His promises. Parents aren't meant to become "surrogate pastors" conducting formal theological instruction, nor are pastors and youth workers meant to function as "surrogate parents." Instead, there's a beautiful complementary partnership where each fulfills their God-given role.

What amazed me was how contemporary research validates these ancient truths. Studies consistently show that active parental discipleship is the strongest predictor of children maintaining faith into adulthood, that regular spiritual conversations in the home are more influential than any church program, and that the home truly is the key place of faith formation. This research doesn't teach us anything new—it simply confirms what God's Word has always taught about the importance of Deuteronomy 6 living.

The Biblical Mandate: More Than Just Good Advice

On day two we continued to focus on the biblical mandate for family discipleship. This isn't about

cherry-picking a few verses to support a ministry philosophy. This isn't another "church fad". Instead, we discussed how family discipleship flows from God's master plan of Creation-Fall-Redemption-Restoration. From Genesis to Revelation, Scripture reveals God's heart for families and His design for passing faith from generation to generation.

We studied passages like Psalm 78:4-8, where we read about telling "the next generation the glorious deeds of the Lord." We reflected on Ephesians 6:4, where Paul mandates fathers to "bring up [children] in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." These aren't suggestions—they're clear commands that reveal God's expectation that faith formation happens primarily in the home.

But here's what is most encouraging: this biblical mandate isn't burdensome. The Lord doesn't call us into something without equipping us for the task. The same God who commands parents to raise their children in the faith also provides His Spirit, His Word, and His intergenerational church family—YOU AND I—to strongly support this calling.

Family-Friendly Tweaks: Small Changes, Big Impact

Perhaps the most practical aspect of the training involved the idea of "family-friendly tweaks"—small adjustments congregations can make to better support families in their discipleship journey. These aren't massive overhauls that require new budgets or programs. Instead, they're thoughtful modifications to existing ministries that help connect what happens at church with what happens at home.

We talked about making simple changes like providing take-home resources that help families continue

conversations started in worship or children's ministry. We discussed how to structure programming that brings generations together rather than always separating them. We explored ways to equip parents with practical tools for spiritual conversations rather than leaving them feeling inadequate or unprepared. This shouldn't be new to COS, as we have been trying to make these "tweaks" over the past few years.

The reality of ministry dictates that each congregation needs to prayerfully consider how to implement changes that fit their context, culture, and community. The goal isn't to become like every other church implementing family ministry - it's to become more faithful to God's design for how faith is passed down through generations.

A Very Good Experience

Overall I am grateful for my time at the training in Fort Wayne. The other participants shared some wonderful ideas that they are implementing in their own churches. The content matter really focused on the unique challenges facing us in 2025. More importantly, the training experience reinforced my confidence that family discipleship isn't a trendy ministry approach - it's a return to God's original design for how faith is nurtured and passed down.

At Christ Our Savior, we're already seeing glimpses of this vision through our intergenerational Sunday school series and the many ways our church family supports one another across generations. But there's so much more we can do to equip, encourage, and support homes to grow in faith together. I'm grateful to explore these things with you moving forward!

—Josh Kittleman

Congratulations Marge Macy!

Tuesday Quilters Update



It is with pleasure that we acknowledge 99 years young to Margarita Macy. She has been a member of the Tuesday Quilting group since around 2009 and still offers a helping hand in assembling the quilts made for LWR. Margarita or Marge as we like to call her contributes her longevity to

No smoking, growing your own vegetables and eating homemade soup. Happy Birthday blessings.

We have welcomed other new members to the group over the past year and recently have grown with the addition of quilters from Hosanna Tabor. As always, any size washed sheets; flat or fitted can be put to use. We have assembled approximately 200 quilts to date for LWR.

—Marilyn Southers

Wonder

By Diane Kaye

Come on out to my big front porch
Sit a spell, rest your face and hands
Sun's droppin' down
Evenin' comin' on
Done with the day's demands

Hankered to show you something amazin'
A glorious sight to see
Fireflies gatherin'
Lights all a'flicker
As bright as bright can be

Must be a million, maybe more
Just a mess of light and sound
Show up sudden like
This time every year
All clickin' and hummin' 'round

Some folks say they're gatherin'
For a firefly convention
Like a VFW
Or high school reunion
Of "insectivore dimension"

Others give more earthy reasons
For them meetin' up this way
Sayin' "nature calls"
Or "duty calls"
More than that, I wouldn't say

The Good Lord made these critters meet
Whatever was His reason
Right awesome bugs
Nature's lightshow
A wonder in their season

New Members

Received on June 8, 2025



Hello! My Name is **Scott Brandt**. I enjoy the Pistons and video games, being around kids, and enjoy making everyone smile when they see me. I look forward to becoming a dad in the near future.



Christopher, Brianna, and Elias Byrne are among the newest members of the Christ Our Savior congregation. In 2023, Christopher and Brianna purchased a home in Livonia, where they've been busy with a variety of home improvement projects. This summer, much of their attention has been on the exterior—Christopher is waging a determined battle against moles in pursuit of a lush lawn, while Brianna is cultivating her very first produce garden, growing everything from tomatoes to corn. Their son Elias recently celebrated his first birthday. He's a joyful little foodie who delights in sharing whatever you're eating—he's not shy about asking! Their home is filled with love. They feel God's blessings daily and are thankful to have found a church community that shares their commitment to spreading His love.



Kathy Frank is transferring from Hosanna Tabor Lutheran where she's been active with quilters. She shared "all my life I have enjoyed many miracles and blessings."

Pat Klopschinsky (no picture) Transferring from Hosanna Tabor Lutheran where active with quilters. She shared that: "right now just doing the camping routine."



Jim Lubeck is a lifelong Lutheran, transferring from Hosanna Tabor. Jim enjoys watching the Red Wings, music and barbequing. He recently joined our congregation with his mother, Sally Lubeck.

Sally Lubeck is married to Andrew Lubeck, and together they have two adult children. Sally has been a member of Hosanna Tabor for

most of her life. She enjoys reading, especially mysteries, spending time with nature and with family and friends.

Marlene Marion and her son, **Dylan Almquist**, come to Christ Our Savior as lifelong Lutherans. An interesting fact, Marlene and Dylan were both baptized as infants on February 10 (of course, many years apart). In addition, both are Eastern Michigan University graduates. Dylan just graduated in May and has been working in banking for four years. When not working or studying, you will find Dylan watching college/ NFL football, gaming, golfing, or enjoying time with friends and family.



Like Dylan, Marlene grew up loving sports and particularly football, basketball, baseball, and competitive cheer. Marlene's passion for working with people and problem solving landed her in a career in Human Resources/Employee Benefits currently working for a Denver-based cybersecurity company. Marlene is also a part-time caregiver for her 84-year-old Dad. When time permits, Marlene enjoys spending time outside in the sunshine and fresh air with family and friends or exploring another community, new restaurant or marketplace.

Throughout their 41 years of marriage, **Steve and Linda Martens** have been members of three churches where they served in various capacities. Many of the areas they served directly correlated to the ages of their children at the time. From serving as President of the school



board to running a puppet ministry. Steve has served as a head usher, assisted with building maintenance, and was part of a group of dedicated men, that rain or shine, installed Christmas lights on the church grounds each year. Linda wants to be a writer when she grows up. To help foster that endeavor, she authored devotions and Bible Studies for use during Ladies Guild meetings. She loves music and when her schedule allowed, participated in choir.

Steve is currently employed with Cochrane Supply & Engineering, a Heating & HVAC Company in their Inside Sales and Shipping/Receiving Departments. Linda is the Executive Assistant to the General Manager of four area Christian Radio stations owned by Crawford Media Group—WMUZ 103.5 The Light is the most well-known.

When they aren't at work, Steve and Linda enjoy creating things with their hands; many times, combining their skills to create unique items for the home. A large majority of these items have been constructed out of antique barnwood, live edge wood, and/or reclaimed windows. Linda designs and Steve fabricates.

Steve is a car buff. When he is not detailing the family vehicles, he is detailing, maintaining, and restoring his 1985 gold Corvette. He enjoys watching shows on Motor Trend like Garage Squad and Fantom Works and he traded in his hobby of building 1/8th or 1/12th scale car models for building LEGO cars instead.

Both are avid readers. Steve enjoys Clancy novels and Linda reads cookbooks like they are novels. Trying new recipes and cooking for her family and friends are two of Linda's favorite things. During the spring and summer months, Linda spends most of her evenings tending to her flower and vegetable gardens. As an extension of this hobby, she enjoys canning and freezing the produce she harvests.

Lastly, Steve also enjoys golf, and Linda hasn't met a craft she didn't like.

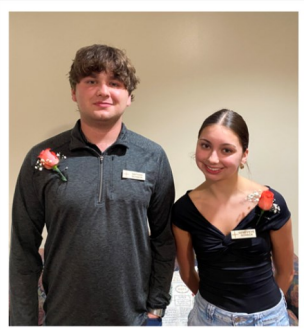
already members here at Christ Our Savior.

Ardythe St. Pierre is a former member of Hosanna Tabor, Redford. She originally came from Richville, Michigan, which started as a church called Frankenhilf which is a sister church to Frankenmuth. She graduated from Wayne State University which brought her to the Detroit area. She has four children, Maurice, Antonette, Cheri and Chevalier. Now retired, She worked as a media specialist in an elementary school library. Later, she updated books for law libraries in Detroit and the suburbs, and worked as a library technical assistant in a Detroit law firm for 10 years. She enjoys reading, making quilts and gardening.

Maurice St. Pierre: I have a liver disease. I help my mother, Ardythe, with chores around the house. She helps me when I don't feel well.

Cynthia & Jacob Seaman: We lived in Highland on Duck Lake for 15 years. Jacob grew up swimming, fishing, catching frogs and crawfish. He learned a lot about nature and animals and that continues to be his passion. He loves hiking in the woods with our two dogs, has three leopard geckos, four parakeets and a one hundred eighty-gallon fish tank. He is also a dog trainer. We moved out of our home when I went through a divorce six years ago and recently, I was able to buy a home in Garden City. We have been visiting churches for the past six years and are happy to make COS our new church home.

Brent and Mikalee Zapczynski—We have been married for six years and live in a cozy Dearborn neighborhood. Our family includes our two little ones—Madeline, an adventurous and spirited two-year-old, and Benjamin, our sweet six-month-old baby boy—as well as our two energetic dogs, Winston and Tigger. We both work full time during the week, so our weekends are all about slowing down and soaking up time with our kids and extended family. Mikalee loves curling up with a good book whenever she gets a quiet moment, while Brent enjoys working on cars and tackling hands-on projects. Life is full, sometimes chaotic, but always filled with love and laughter.



Nathan Schack and Genevieve Schack are a brother and sister joining together. Their father, Jon Schack, and grandmother, Joyce Schack, are

Holy God, do not
allow fear or doubt
to steal away my
hope. Grant me
Your Spirit and
place Your
heavenly joy in my
heart that I may
know the soothing
balm of Your
presence always.
Through Jesus
Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

*A joyful heart is
good medicine.
(Proverbs 17:22a)*

How We are Serving

Women's Ministry News and Updates

Mission Spotlight

(from LWML MI District newsletter)

#4 ASL (American Sign Language) Storybook Apps – *St. Martin School for the deaf*
\$17,950.00

Without an accessible education rooted in the foundation of ASL to supplement the learning of the English language, deaf children cannot learn to read and therefore, cannot access the Gospel. 90% of deaf children are born into hearing families; 10% of those families will learn sign language. With the assistance in financial requirements necessary to produce quality Christian-centered literacy resources, children will have the opportunity to develop literacy skills, enabling them to achieve anything they put their minds to.

Watch for future updates of other grants for our Michigan district.

Miles for Mites

Follow us, Carla Elenz, Land of Lakes Zone, and Kathy Sowers, Evergreen Zone, on our "Mitey" bike tour to Omaha! On June 12th, we'll be taking a train to St. Louis, MO. A generous hostess is picking us up from the train station and we will stay the night at her house. The next morning, Friday, June 13th, she will take us to LWML National office at Concordia Seminary. After a tour, we will begin a 12-day journey across the Katy Trail and roads to reach our final destination in downtown Omaha at the National LWML convention on June 25th. We already have a gracious host/hostess for each night of our journey. You can follow us daily on the "Miles for Mites to Omaha" Facebook page during our trip. If you would like to donate to Miles for Mites see the link on our Facebook page or the website lwmlmichigan.org. We are not benefiting from this ride. Anything we get will be for Mites!! See you in Omaha!!

Carla & Kathy

Glad I'm going by car. Watch for information in next newsletter regarding National convention in Omaha.

School Totes for Lutheran World Relief

How time flies; can you believe school is out? It's time to consider buying school supplies for the totes we fill each year for Lutheran World Relief! Watch for sign-up sheets and apples with lists of supplies at the Welcome Desk sometime in July. Drop off your donations at the Welcome Desk. Items will be collected up through October 5 so you can take advantage of the sales on school supplies. Our goal for this year is to fill 300 totes. Lutheran World Relief distributes these totes to kids around the world who aren't able to afford their own school supplies. Contact: Dianne Sherman (734-812-5172), Joanna Eiwen (734-812-6035) or the church office (734-522-6830).

—from Dianne Sherman

Upcoming Events

July

July 12– Quilt/Sew

July 14 – Quilt/Sew

July 28 - Quilt/Sew

July 18 – Game Night

August

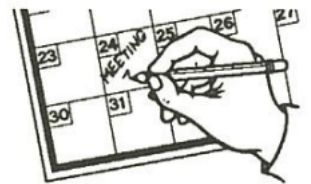
August 9 – Quilt/Sew

August 11 – Quilt/Sew

August 25– Quilt/Sew

August 15 – Game Night

August 23 – Trunk Sale



The Life of a Preacher

By Omar Wheeler, grandfather of Jill Olasz

Oh, for the life of a preacher
And to live a life of ease,
Just to preach a sermon a week
And the rest of the time as I please

He gets a call to take a church
And moves in there and then,
He gets acquainted, makes new friends
And then moves on again

Of course he has to visit with
Each member of his flock
He listens to their aches and woes
And comforts them a lot

They call upon him night and day
Broken homes and hearts to mend,
He's got to keep their courage up
Be their counselor and friend.

He has to baptize, wed and bury
When they call on him today,
And he'll drop the job he's doing
When sick ask him to pray.

Oh, he doesn't earn much money
But that doesn't mean a thing,
'Cause his job has got a title,
"Ambassador to the King".

Oh, for the life of a preacher
Who with never sigh or groan
Works day and night, seven days of
the week,
But, the rest of the time is his own.



Summertime at the ECP Early Childhood Program Update



Our Early Childhood Program (ECP) is a month into its summer program! Children up to 8 years old are spending their summer days at the ECP. The office staff recently heard the laughs and giggles of excitement as the kids had their first "Water Day" on the lawn on the northside of COS. The children in the Early Childhood Program were also an integral part of our True North VBS! They were a wonderful presence each day, and had a great time singing songs, hearing the Bible Story, making crafts, playing games, and observing the nutty scientist! This year we are incorporating Chapel into each week of the summer program. We are exploring the "Fruit of the Spirit" and our pastors and church staff are leading the kids each Wednesday.

The summer is also a great time for staff to grow in skills as they serve the children in their care. In early August, our staff will be going to the Michigan District Early Childhood conference. This is an annual gathering where over 500

passionate early childhood educators come together for a day of fellowship, learning, collaboration, and fun. Our ECP staff will also renew their CPR training in August as well.

Finally, the summer is also a time of planning and collaboration. Staff is continuing to talk about how we can provide opportunities for our congregation to interact with our Early Childhood families at appropriate points in the year. One date to keep in mind already is Friday, Oct. 31 as we will be planning on having congregation members hand out candy to our children like we did last year. We hope to another opportunity or two next year! As always, please keep our ECP staff, children and families in your prayers!

—Josh Kittleman



Membership Updates

As of June 30, 2025



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

Included in this report are members that the Elders have not been able to reach. They request your help with these members. If you have any information about them or possible ways to contact them, please share with the chairman of the Board of Elders, Mark Anders (ElderMarkAnders@christoursavior.org) or the church office (734-522-6830).

Deceased

- Bill Ruth on May 20, 2025
- Nathaniel Shepardson on Jun 8, 2025
- Jerry Ricken on Jun 18, 2025
- Tammy Roy on Jun 22, 2025

Received by Other

- Benjamin Zapczynski on Jun 8, 2025
- Madeline Zapczynski on Jun 8, 2025

Received by Confirmation

- Scott Brandt on Jun 8, 2025
- Brianna Clark on Jun 8, 2025
- Genevieve Schack on Jun 8, 2025
- Nathan Schack on Jun 8, 2025
- Cynthia Seaman on Jun 8, 2025
- Brent Zapczynski on Jun 8, 2025
- Mikalee Zapczynski on Jun 8, 2025

Received by Transfer from Other LCMS

- Irene Cooke on Jun 8, 2025
- Dylan Almquist on Jun 8, 2025
- Christopher Byrne on Jun 8, 2025
- Kathy Frank on Jun 8, 2025

- Pat Klopschinsky on Jun 8, 2025
- Jim Lubeck on Jun 8, 2025
- Sally Lubeck on Jun 8, 2025
- Marlene Marion on Jun 8, 2025
- Linda Martens on Jun 8, 2025
- Steve Martens on Jun 8, 2025
- Jacob Seaman on Jun 8, 2025
- Ardythe St Pierre on Jun 8, 2025
- Maurice St Pierre on Jun 8, 2025

Removed by Transfer to Other LCMS

- Carri Reuter on May 30, 2025
- Michael Reuter on May 30, 2025

Removed by Other

- Jennifer Schmidt on May 27, 2025
- Irene Cooke on Jun 16, 2025

Unreachable Members:

- Joseph Burke (non-member parents Thomas & Susan Burke)

Memorials and Gifts

In memory of Bill Reynolds	Intended for: General Fund	Given by: Bruce & Nina Howard, Personnel at Bill Brown Ford
In memory of James Mitchell	Intended for: General Fund Missions Music Ministry	Given by: Anonymous, Karen Crispi, Doreen & Mary Morris, Mark & Linda Reschke, Bob & Sue Stiles, Larry & Colleen Szymoniak Shirley Speirs Ruth Hein
In memory of Mark Edwards	Intended for: General Fund Music Ministry	Given by: Mark & Teri Temby Joann Rogers
In memory of Mike Farabaugh	Intended for: General Fund Handbell Choir Paving for the Future	Given by: Joann Rogers, Dan & Christine Wiersig Carolyn Bridger, Darlene Loxton, Janice L. Nell, Theresa O'Bey, Richard & Bonnie Shingledecker, Bryan & Linda Tajitze Shirley Speirs, Katherine Stasevich
In memory of Bill Ruth	Intended for: General Fund Youth Group Food Pantry Music Ministry Family of God Ministry Grief Share Ministry Comfort Dog Ministry	Given by: Mr. & Ms. Barton, Carolyn Bryer, David & Janeen Crittenden, David & Elizabeth Kosmalski, Pat & Mick Lutz, Rol & Marie Schlosser, Stuart & Elisabeth Schluckebier, James & Gloria Webber, Jonathan & Jessica Weitschat Jess & Helena Hatten Elizabeth Williams Earl & Laurie Flegler, Brenda Flegler Karen & Natalie Hansen, Asher, Jude, Nora & Lucy Jill Ritzler Sarah & Dan Wacker
In Memory of: Dan Sherick Dan Sherick Kathe Filip Brian Luther Amilcheri Giandiletti	Intended for: Paving for the Future Good Samaritan Fund General Fund Men's Ministry Paving for the Future	Given by: Shirley Speirs Richard & Phyllis Nader Charity Inc. Eileen Luther Sokoloski Michael Giandiletti
In Honor of: Bob & Barb Moldenhauer's Vow Renewal	Intended for: Family of God Ministry Music Ministry	Given by: John & Eunice Smith Stuart & Elisabeth Schluckebier

~~Classifieds~~

>>Two Cemetery Plots in Glen Eden in Livonia

The two plots are located in the Garden of Rest — Block 2, Section 6, Space #3 and #4. The owner is asking \$1,800 / ea. Further info on plots: NEW ones in that section of the cemetery sell for \$2,000 if purchased at the Glen Eden office.

Those interested can drive to the cemetery and check out the locations. The sale would be between the owner and the buyer. Then the seller would take the deed to the cemetery office and have the deed transferred over to the new owners. The office would mail a “new” deed to the new owners.

Contact: Judy Smith
3167 Windjammer Dr.
Spring Hill, FL 34607
352-403-8901
doodlesbyj@yahoo.com

>>One Lot Available in Glen Eden Cemetery

Asking \$1,000

Block 29-Garden of Ascension
Section 691
Grave #6

Contact: Jean Hishmeh (248-798-9233)

The Lighter Side



ADAM'S RIBS

At Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs.

Later in the week, his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and she said, 'Johnny, what is the matter, young boy?'

Little Johnny responded, "I have pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."

HAIR CUT

Danny had recently passed his driving test and decided to ask his clergyman father if there was any chance of him getting a car for Christmas, which was yet some months away.

"Okay," said his father, "I tell you what I'll do. If you can get your 'C' level grades up to 'A's and 'B's, study your Bible and get your hair cut, I'll consider the matter very seriously."

A month later Danny went back to his father who said "I'm really impressed by your commitment to your studies. Your grades are excellent and the work you have put into your Bible studies is very encouraging. However, I have to say I'm very disappointed that you haven't had your hair cut yet."

Danny was smart and never lost for an answer. "Look dad. In the course of my Bible studies I've noticed in

the illustrations that Moses, John the Baptist, Samson and even Jesus had long hair."

"Yes. I'm aware of that..." replied his father "... but did you also notice they walked wherever they went?"

Your ad could be here!

Send a business card-sized (3.5" x 2") ad for your business, product or service to alyssak@christoursavior.org to be included in the next issue of the Disciplegram. There is no fee for advertising—our goal to increase the connections in our congregation!

Ads will be included as space allows; our staff reserves the right to make final decisions on what is included.