

September/  
October 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

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## Together — as the Body of Christ!

Summer is winding down. As you are reading this letter you've already celebrated Labor Day. The adage "time flies when you are having fun" applies! I have blinked my eyes and poof!

If you are anything like me you enjoyed the summer with family and friends. The Davenports did just that—weddings, catching up on lost time, spending time with the grandchildren and discovering the pools that we have here in Livonia—I never knew!

For the rest of 2025 and into 2026 we are going to be focusing on caring for one another and fellowshiping/building relationships with one another so that, as the body of Christ, we can grow in our love for Him being equipped to share the love of Jesus here and there. There will be opportunities for you to become involved in some common and new events and in the process we will get to know each other better. With a congregation of our size it is important for all of us to be

deliberate in getting to know our brothers and sisters in Christ. Are you wearing your nametags? Do you pay attention to the newer members, are you going out of your way to introduce yourself to them (we are welcoming the next group of new members on October 5<sup>th</sup> at the late service)? And not just

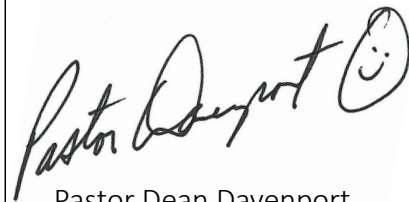
newer members—do you know the people that have called COS home for years? We have a body, here at COS, with lots of different members and gifts—thanks be to God! We are stronger together!

On September 14<sup>th</sup> we will be beginning our new “semester” of adult and children education. Please bring your kids and attend as adults one of the many offerings that we have planned for you. Grab a donut and something to drink in the narthex after the service and take it with you to whatever class you’re attending. I’m excited for what the Lord has in store for us in the remainder of 2025 and beyond!

My prayer for you is a portion of God’s Word from 2 Timothy 3:14-18—it applies to all of us! “But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work”.

Together, as the body of Christ, let’s grow in our love of Jesus!

God loves you and so do I!



Pastor Dean Davenport

### 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 Mahlborg**—*Macau*

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

# Serve Wholeheartedly

## Join the Media Team!

Featured  
Ministry



*Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were  
serving the Lord, not people.  
Ephesians 6:7*

Would you like to see what all happens back in the A/V booth on a Sunday morning?

Good news! On September 28, from 12:30 to 2:00pm, the media team welcomes anyone interested in finding out! On that Sunday, we will be having a training meeting on all things A/V!

Everyone is welcome!

We will go over how to run the front screens, how to record a service, and how to run the soundboard.

Don't be worried, it's not as difficult as you may think!

Here's what the team does:

One person is responsible for running the screens that have all the liturgy and

announcements. It's as easy as following along in the service bulletin and clicking on the next screen.

One person records the service to be placed on the website. This is a little more complicated since you are working with three different software programs, but with some practice you could be a pro in no time!

One person runs the soundboard for the microphones of the pastors, lectors and special music. Again, with some training, you could be a pro!

The team is responsible for Sunday morning worship services, funeral services and midweek Lent and Advent services. There are a lot of opportunities to get involved!

If you are interested, please contact me, Laurie Riegel ([Laurier@christoursavior.org](mailto:Laurier@christoursavior.org), 734-522-6830). I would love to talk to you!

—Laurie Riegel





# Nourished for the Journey

## Michigan District Convention



Every three years, the Michigan District of the LCMS holds a convention. Over a period of several days, pastors and church workers from the District gather to worship, fellowship, hear updates, and discuss the business of our church body. This year, the convention was held

on the campus of Concordia University Ann Arbor on June 22-24. The location was a bittersweet memory of all the ministry done on Concordia's campus, which ended as the school closed this past spring. Over the course of the convention, different churches were asked to provide food for the attendees. Christ Our Savior organized the lunch meal on Monday and used the opportunity to draw attention to the ministry in Detroit through the churches of Family of God and Pan de Vida and the ministry of the Luke Clinic.

Several of our members shared their thoughts of the event:

campus, our amazing group lightened the mood with a well planned Mexican themed lunch for 600+ people! Each ethnic meal throughout the convention pointed to a special ministry, and COS focused on the Family of God in Detroit. With fiesta party decorations, brightly colored crafted flowers, carefully painted stones, a build-your-own taco spread, and Mariachi band—the lunch went off 'steamingly' well! It was an equal delight to connect with a variety of individuals from previous years including classmates, an Assistant High

School Principal, Professors, Pastors, and colleagues. The Ministry Tent and Exhibitor Displays were an added bonus to peruse! Despite the extreme heat (my car's thermometer read 106 degrees when I left), it was a rewarding day focused on being 'Nourished for the Journey' and 'Christ First in Everything!'

*From Mark Anders:*

On Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> Esther and I, along with a group of about 20 other adults from COS, participated in a volunteer event to setup and serve a buffet lunch to the attendees at the Michigan District Convention held at the CUAA campus grounds. The lunch was set up under outdoor tents on the east side of the campus; our group was responsible for setting tables, supervising the buffet lines as the food was served, and cleanup afterwards. Several hundred people were served in all...it was a busy few hours, but we all received many compliments on the food and the service provided. Turns out it was a very hot day, and with the lunch outdoors we definitely felt the heat; fortunately, we were under the shade of the canopy tents and the Lord provided a good breeze that refreshed us all! (And plenty of water was available!).

*From Natalie Hansen:*

It was an honor and blessing to serve at this year's 104<sup>th</sup> Michigan District Convention at Concordia University, Ann Arbor (CUAA) on Monday, 6/23/2025, as an alumni and member of COS! Though likely the last convention to be hosted on the beautiful

This was to be one of the last opportunities to spend time on the CUAA campus, as they have officially closed their doors at the end of this recent school term. This made the event on the 23<sup>rd</sup> a bit surreal...such a beautiful campus that will no longer be part of the Concordia University system. And at the



same time, we observed the participants in the convention exhibiting a real enthusiasm for the fellowship with other convention attendees. Even though facilities and campuses come and go, the future of the Michigan District churches lies in its people and their continued commitment to service to others and fellowship with one another. And with God enabling all this, there's no need to be discouraged about the future of CUAA or any other part of the Michigan District organization...God will see us through and equip us for the work ahead.

*From Fritz Quitmeyer*

I was one of several from COS that attended the Michigan District Convention this past June. It's important to attend not just so that one knows what's going on, but to be built up in faith with other brothers and sisters in Christ, through worship, study, and fellowship.

The most moving part of every district and synodical convention, to me, is the memorial service. In this service, the ordained and commissioned saints who were called to their eternal rest, since the previous convention, are remembered. It's touching, moving, brings a lot of reflection, and thanksgiving.

However, in this convention this emotion was usurped by the references to CUAA in multiple resolutions, in

conversation, by President Harrison who stated he had a level of discomfort being present, and by just being on the main campus.

A funeral pall represents the deceased' baptism and the hope of the resurrection. I look at the convention as the pall covering CUAA's coffin.

The school was not baptized per se, but it was dedicated to the glory of God. It was blessed and celebrated as it opened its doors. The school was alive and the Church was blessed as many who passed through those doors went into church work or into the secular world living according to God's will. In addition, many unbelievers became baptized believers.

The school is not what it once was. It was said that this was the last Michigan District Convention to be held on this campus. It isn't yet known what will become of the main campus, but there is hope of it re-opening in some fashion. Yet, because of CUAA staff, congregations, and students, many came to know Jesus Christ as their Savior and the hope of their resurrection portrayed by a pall is appropriate.



## Sharing Resources

### C.A.R.E.S. in Farmington Hills



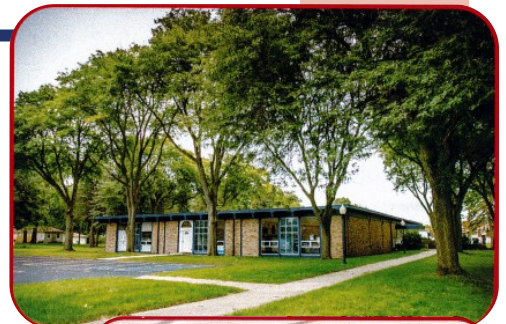
*Matthew 25:35a ...for I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink...*

Sitting back off the road, the converted church building and campus at 27835 Shiawassee Road, Farmington Hills, MI, between Middlebelt and Inkster Roads, is unimposing and easily missed. But the services provided on that 10-acre property have tremendous and daily impact on residents of the surrounding eight communities—Farmington Hills, Farmington, Livonia, Redford Township, Southfield, Northville, Novi and West Bloomfield.

CARES (Community. Action. Resources. Empowerment. Services.) is dedicated to providing vital support services to the residents of the communities listed above. There is a self-service Family Pantry which currently serves, by appointment, 800+ families a month; a Market, open five days a week, where anyone is welcome to shop for groceries

and 100% of whose proceeds support the Pantry; and on-campus partners, including Colette's Place, Alcoholics Anonymous Outreach, Rebuilding Together, Oakland County Veterans Services, WIC, and Navigation Center.

If you, or someone you know, lives in any of the eight communities listed above, and/or needs further information about CARES and its mission, services, needs, etc., please pick up a brochure from the rack in the narthex, check out their website at [www.caresfh.org](http://www.caresfh.org), contact the Food Pantry phone number (248.474.8231), send an email to [info@carefh.org](mailto:info@carefh.org), and/or contact Marie Schlosser, CARES Market Volunteer and COS member, at 734.765.7965.



# Even When It All Goes Wrong

## Discipleship in the Family



"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"  
- Psalm 46:10

Last week during our family meeting, I found myself getting grumpy and snippy with my family as we reviewed the upcoming week's calendar. As we flipped through the days ahead, marking soccer practices, work commitments, church events, and everything in between, I realized with growing frustration that we were only going to have one sit-down dinner together as a family that entire week. Just one.

I value our time together so deeply—particularly those special moments around the dinner table where we can connect, share about our days, and simply be present with one another. Looking at that sparse calendar of family meals, I could feel the tension rising in my chest. The uncomfortable reality hit me: we were about to spend another week running fast and furious, and I was not a fan of that at all.

Now, I shouldn't have taken my frustration out on my family members. They didn't create this busy season any more than I did—we were all just trying to navigate the demands of life together. But that moment of grumpiness revealed something important: how uncomfortable it can be when we're always moving at breakneck speed, when our calendars are so packed that the things we value most get

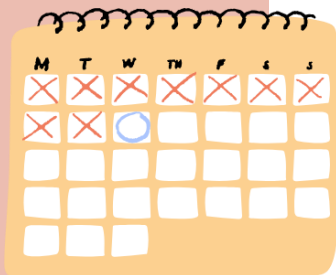
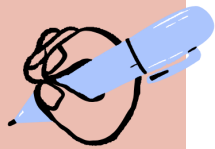


squeezed into the margins.

While I'm personally in the thick of parenting teenagers—with all the driving, activities, and scheduling chaos that entails—I'm reminded that every stage of life brings its own version of overwhelming busy-ness. It's easy for people in every season to feel like they're drowning in commitments and obligations.

My mother, who is in her seventies, is also trying to balance all of her church commitments, social engagements, and healthcare appointments. Even in retirement, she finds herself feeling pulled in multiple directions, trying to be faithful to her various responsibilities while also taking care of her health and maintaining relationships. The details change, but that sense of being overwhelmed by the pace of life? That seems to be a universal human experience.

Whether you're a young parent juggling work and toddler schedules, a college student managing coursework and relationships, a middle-aged adult caring for both children and aging parents, or a retiree trying to navigate a new rhythm of life—we all face seasons when the calendar feels more like a master than a tool.



So what do we do when life feels like it's moving too fast? When our schedules are so packed that we barely have time to breathe, let alone connect meaningfully with the people we love? Here are a few practices that I'm trying to embrace, even when (especially when) I don't feel like I have time for them:

Give God our calendar and our time. This might sound simple, but it's actually quite radical. We often approach our schedules as if we're the ultimate authority over our days, making decisions based solely on what seems urgent or what others expect of us. But acknowledging that our time is actually a gift from God—every second, minute, hour, and day—changes how we approach our commitments. When we remember that our time belongs to Him, we can humbly ask for His wisdom in how to use it well.

Give God our anxiety. That knot in my stomach during our family meeting? That's the kind of anxiety that God invites us to bring to Him. When we're feeling overwhelmed by our schedules, when we're frustrated by the lack of margin in our lives, we don't have to carry that burden alone. First Peter 5:7 reminds us to "cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you." Our busy-ness, our stress, our worry about not having enough time for the things that matter—all of this is something we can hand over to our heavenly Father.

Pray for discernment. Not every good opportunity is a God opportunity for us. Not every request for our time is something we need to say yes to. Learning to discern between what is urgent and what is important, between what others expect of us and what God is actually calling us to—this takes wisdom that comes from spending time with Him. When we pray for discernment about our schedules, we're asking God to help us see our commitments through His eyes.

Pray for forgiveness. Here's the brutal reality: we're going to make poor decisions with our time. We're going to say yes when we should have said no, and no when we should have said yes. We're going to prioritize the wrong things, get frustrated with the people we love most, and sometimes miss what God is trying to teach us through both our busy seasons and our quiet ones. When this happens—and it will happen—we can come to God with confidence, knowing that His grace covers even our scheduling mistakes.

The truth is, life is messy, and our schedules often reflect that messiness. But even in the midst of busy-ness, even when we're running from one commitment to the next, God is present with us.

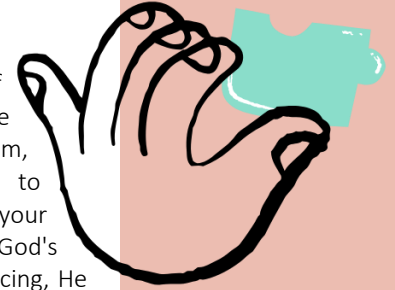
He's present in the car rides between activities, in the brief conversations squeezed between meetings, in the prayers we whisper when we're feeling overwhelmed. He doesn't require us to have our lives perfectly organized before we can experience His peace. In fact, sometimes it's in the middle of our most hectic seasons that we learn to depend on Him most deeply.

So whether you're in the thick of parenting young children, managing the complex schedules of teenagers like I am, caring for aging parents, or trying to navigate retirement—remember that your busy-ness doesn't disqualify you from God's grace. He knows the pressures you're facing, He sees the commitments that are pulling you in different directions, and He cares about both your practical needs and your need for rest.

The goal isn't to eliminate all busy-ness from our lives—sometimes faithful living requires us to be actively engaged in multiple areas. The goal is to ensure that our busy-ness flows from a heart that is grounded in God's love, guided by His wisdom, and sustained by His strength.

Even when we only get one family dinner together in a week.

—Josh Kittleman



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| <b>You have options for how you can receive the Disciplegram!</b>                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| If you would like to receive an electronic version of this newsletter instead of a printed copy, let us know! Email Alyssa Knock at <a href="mailto:alyssak@christoursavior.org">alyssak@christoursavior.org</a> with your request. |  |
| Also, there are always extra printed copies available in the narthex in the same rack as the Portals of Prayer devotions.                                                                                                           |  |



# - Training in Progress - Fur Blessings

## Come. Place. Sit. Heel. For Jesus!

If you've been at COS during the week in the past month, you may have caught a glimpse of Toffee and our Comfort Animal Crew focused, learning, and practicing commands. Our first session with Off Leash K9 Training, LLC began on Wednesday, 7/23/2025, and has continued since, weekly. Of our 8-week private training schedule, we hit midway in the 'Basic and Advanced Obedience' courses; and can share, the Lord has blessed us with an amazing canine! Toffee has proven himself to be

friendly, gentle, intelligent, and obedient. He is very easy going and trainable, and was reported by our trainer early on as a "sweet boy, not stubborn, but independent...a good therapy dog, because he is calm."

Next up, will be our 4-week 'Therapy Group Class,' the Canine Good Citizen Certification, and then an intensive 'Therapy Dog Training' offered once a year in September.

For those who own a dog or have in the past, you know first-hand the time and



dedication that goes into training. And, for anyone who doesn't, be aware there is a TON of nurturing, hard work, and love in this endeavor! Honestly, it's similar to producing Fine Art...Few see the behind-the-scenes planning and steps, but solely the finished product to marvel at and enjoy.

'THANK YOU,' again, to ALL who have expressed interest, prayed, and lent monetary support for the start-up expenses of the **Fur Blessings** ministry!

We are working our paws off to serve Jesus and you!

Gods love, and many tail wags!

—Natalie Hansen



## 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@christoursavior.org](mailto:alyssak@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!

# Glimpse

By Diane Kaye

Tall trees whisper

Subtle secrets

In the wind

Sssss-shshshsh-shsssss-shshsh

Multicolored leaves fall

To an overburdened earth

Create small whirlwinds

Of protest

Ashen moon

Glances down

Amid unending clusters

Of swiftly moving clouds

Sheds awesome shadows

On frosted ground

Scary silhouettes

Spread all about

Pumpkins smile

In the shadows

Candles flicker

In the breeze

Porch lights beckon

Porch steps creak

Small voices call out

"Trick or treat!"

Moon descends now

Goblins gone

Porch lights off

Pumpkins dim

Tall trees whisper

Subtle secrets

In the wind

Sssss-shshshsh-shsssss-shshsh



# Connecting with Others in Our Community

## The Apostle's Creed in Our Lives, Part 3



The Third Article of the Apostle's Creed brings us through the receiving of faith and the maintaining of faith to the end of our earthly life and beyond. "I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen."

In talking to others about faith through the Third Article, we refer to man's sinful condition and that because of that we are unable to believe in Jesus. Man by nature is spiritually blind, dead, and an enemy of God. All we have to do to see this is to look at how often man rebels against God. It is why we need the Holy Spirit to work faith in us. This begins in Baptism when we receive the Holy Spirit and the forgiveness of sins. In Baptism, the Holy Spirit works faith and thus creates in us new spiritual life. "He saved us, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit." Titus 3:5. This makes us different from others since we are made new and can daily repent and overcome sin to live in true godliness. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." 2 Corinthians 5:17.



The Holy Spirit works faith in us. "The Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith." (LSC) We are called and enlightened by the Word of God and strengthened by the Sacraments. These are the gifts given us by the Holy Spirit which we can take comfort in.

This is why coming to church is so important. It is in church that we hear God's Word preached every single Sunday. We draw faith through the Holy Spirit from hearing God's Word. "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ." Romans 10:17.

In saying that we believe in the holy Christian Church, we are confessing that Christ created a new spiritual house of God, built on the teaching and preaching of Christ and His

apostles. The foundation of this house is built upon Christ as its cornerstone. "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord." Ephesians 2:19-21. This is the communion of saints who are made holy by faith in Christ and work together to serve God.

We are assured through Scripture that God forgives the sins of believers. We simply need to repent. This is done freely by God and not through anything we do. "In him (Jesus) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace." Ephesians 1:7.

We believe in the promises of God that He will raise us up on the Last Day and give us eternal life in a body made glorious. "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself." Philippians 3:20-21.

One should not feel overwhelmed in using the Apostle's Creed to speak the truth to our neighbors and community. You do not need to use it all at once. But certainly use parts of it to help you explain the faith you have in the Lord and to tell about God, His plan for salvation, and the ongoing work of the church. You may surprise yourself with how much you remember from your youth or when you learned about the Apostle's Creed from Luther's Small Catechism. The Creed is a tool created to help us remember Scripture and to give us comfort in times of trial. Use it as a tool to "share the Word of Christ to all."

-Steven Kern, St. Paul, Millington, MI

# New Worker in the Field

## News from Family of God



A new member has joined the team at Family of God Lutheran. God always provides, and it is comforting to see another step in his master plan to bring salvation to all people. His ways of working out his master plan are mysterious, and we often don't see how all the pieces fit together until the finished puzzle sits in front of us. Alexander's story is no different.

In high school, Alexander Ogden wasn't sure what he "wanted to do with his life." He ended up on a mission trip to Belize in his junior year. After that introductory experience in ministry, God clarified for him that he was being *called*.

But Alexander's journey to Family of God started long before high school. Although Alexander was raised in Warren, Michigan, his life began on the other side of the world in Kemerovo, Russia. His parents adopted him when he was twenty-two months old after visiting his orphanage. His first English word was "doctor"—he had to visit so many to recover from various ailments he contracted from neglect and malnutrition. This harsh beginning gave him a deep sympathy for those surviving on the streets of Detroit.

After graduating from Concordia Theological Seminary at Fort Wayne this spring, Alexander was ordained into the Holy Ministry on July 15 at St. Stephen's Lutheran in Detroit. His first call was to Family of God in Detroit. Far from the overly organized, committee-filled, potluck-giving, early service vs. late service crowds of a typical congregation in the LCMS, Alexander started as a pastor in the chaos of addiction, homelessness, crime and insecurity. And he loves it. Arriving at Family of God felt like a homecoming for him. He sees the real need to continue the work there, and also gets excited about opportunities for new growth.

As an Associate Pastor, his role is not to lead, but to support those in leadership. Sometimes that means taking care of the less glamorous tasks, including running errands, killing cockroaches or handing out toothbrushes. There are also times, however, when his support role allows him to sit down and talk with people, providing pastoral care and teaching in the faith. He savors the

moments when he can move past charity towards faith in the individuals who come to the church. He also enjoys working with the children—he recalled an experience when one kid came to him asking if he could help during the services. Alexander was more than happy to show him the ropes of acolyting, and at the same time, include him in the rich and meaningful traditions of our liturgy.

Alexander admits every day ministry at Family of God involves managing crisis' and triaging needs. It's hard to find time to plan and strategize for the future. In those few moments of reflection, though, he looks ahead to a core of regular parishioners. He would love to get past feeding the congregation with spiritual "milk" and get them, at least, on baby food. To help with this goal, he would like to introduce regular prayer services. He knows the people at Family of God have lives filled with change, disruption, and inconsistency, and he would love for the church to be a place of stability. And the prayer services in our Lutheran Hymnal, such as Matins and Vespers, reach back to traditions started hundreds, if not thousands of years ago. The consistency of people praying these prayers, he hopes, will bring comfort and hope to those struggling to survive in the poorest conditions.

You can meet Alexander on Wednesday mornings when he comes with Pastor Jim and Nick to teach the Adult Bible Class at Christ Our Savior. Or travel down to southwest Detroit to serve a meal with one of our teams who go on the first and fourth Mondays of every month, as well as the second Tuesday. (Contact Arlo Wiltenburg, 734-513-5752, or Linda Waara, 734-245-5733, for more information.)

—Alyssa Knock, with Alexander Ogden



Pastor Davenport presided over the Ordination of Alexander Ogden at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church (Detroit) on July 15, 2025

Gracious Lord,  
every day is a  
gift from You,  
and daily You  
bear me up and  
sustain me. Give  
me strength for  
this day, and  
bless me with  
the salvation  
You have given  
through Your  
Son, Jesus  
Christ, our Lord.  
Amen

*Blessed be  
the Lord who  
daily bears us  
up: God is  
our salvation.  
(Psalm 68:19)*

# Kick-off for Fall

## Women's Ministry News and Updates

### Mission Spotlight

**#5 Scholarships for Female Students Studying as Deaconess / Professional Church Worker—\$20,000**

Matthew 9:37 says, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." The need for deaconesses and other professional church workers in the LCMS is great and growing daily. The financial obligation for women to receive training is costly, and puts a strain on their ability to attend a Concordia University or Seminary. By the LWML Michigan District providing \$20,000, women will be able to answer the call, using their gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

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

—from LWML MI District newsletter

### School Totes for Lutheran World Relief

Apples are being handed out at the welcome desk and we are about 2/3 of the way to our goal of 300. We hope to meet the goal by October 5th. People ask what we do if there are extra items. It is our practice to divide the extra between our 3 local Lutheran schools: St. Michael Wayne, St. Matthew Westland, and St. Paul Northville. There will be a sign-up sheet to pack the totes on Saturday September 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> at the welcome desk.

### LWML Updates

The national LWML convention held in June—*Growing in God's grace*—was awesome. The opportunity to worship with so many and learn in breakout sessions from those involved and heading different ministries was truly inspiring. Dining with individuals from all over the country was enlightening as well – sharing experiences and ministries happening in each of their communities was a true fellowship opportunity.

Our Wayne Oak Hills LWML zone is one of three zones that have been given the responsibility of

coordinating and hosting the LWML District Convention to be held in 2026 in Lansing. The women of our church will handle wardrobe.

Dianne Sherman will lead this endeavor and is in need of several women of our congregation to form a committee. Please see her to sign-up or ask questions. Please pray about this opportunity to serve.

### WOW—Women's Kick-off

Women of our congregation—Please join us on Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup> after 2<sup>nd</sup> service to share upcoming events for our women's group participation in things like—Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup> Women's Ministry Sunday, bake sales, committee for LWML MI district convention to be held in summer of 2026 in Lansing. Sign-up at the Welcome Desk or contact Dianne Sherman (734-812-5172).

### Trunk Sale

The trunk sale was a nice cool day (just a little rain). The participants were able to lessen the items they brought and fellowship with the others who brought items to sell. We will hold the spring trunk sale on the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.

### Upcoming Events

#### September

Sept 7 – WOW Kick-off after 11am service

Sept 8 – Quilt/Sew

Sept 13 – Quilt/Sew

Sept 15 - Quilt/Sew

Sept 19 – Game Night

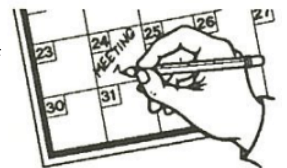
#### October

Oct 11 – Quilt/Sew

Oct 13 – Quilt/Sew

Oct 17 – Game Night

Oct 27– Quilt/Sew



# Ready for the School Year

## Early Childhood Program Update



It was a great summer! Our staff and children experienced countless highlights throughout the season, filled with fun activities. From park days to water days and pizza days, our summer program provided wonderful opportunities for children to interact and grow together.

As we prepared for the new school year, our entire COS Early Childhood staff had the privilege of joining over 600 early childhood educators at the annual Michigan District Early Childhood Conference on August 7<sup>th</sup> in Frankenmuth. This year's conference was excellent, with main speaker Cathy Tooley delivering a message that reminded all participants of their calling as "teaching superheroes." Her enthusiastic presentation reinforced what we already know to be true—that Jesus has placed each of our teachers in exactly the right spot to make a difference in the lives of the children they serve.

In addition to the conference, our dedicated teachers completed their CPR training in August, ensuring they are fully prepared to provide the safest possible environment for our children.

Our Teacher Meet & Greet on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup> was another wonderful highlight as we transitioned into the new school year! Children had the opportunity to meet their teachers, explore

their classrooms, and begin building those important relationships that will carry them through the year. The excitement was palpable as both children and families connected with our loving staff.

Looking ahead, we are eagerly anticipating our first field trip of the year to Plymouth Orchards! This annual tradition is always a favorite among our children, and we can't wait to see their faces light up as they experience the joy of fall together.

Finally, please keep your eyes open for another opportunity to join us in making Halloween special for our ECP children. We are currently working out the details in having COS members pass out candy on Halloween, and we will share more information in upcoming COS Updates. Your willingness to participate in these special moments means so much to our children and families!

As always, please continue to keep our ECP staff, children, and families in your prayers as we begin this new school year together. We are grateful for the ongoing support of our Christ Our Savior family in making our Early Childhood Program such a special place for children to learn and grow in faith in Jesus!

—Josh Kittleman

## "Songs of America"

### Forever Young Announcement



Advanced notice for a special May 29, 2026 event!

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra at Orchestra Hall will perform "SONGS OF AMERICA" honoring America's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday!! Celebrate America's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday with the songs and sounds that have shaped our nation's musical legacy. From jazz standards and Broadway classics to the great American Songbook, join the DSO for a journey through America's musical heritage.

The cost of this Forever Young event will be \$72/ person, due by beginning of May (includes bus and concert ticket).

There is a 55-person limit on the Deluxe Coach Bus, so mark your calendars and sign up soon!

The group will leave COS at 9am (sharp) and will return by 12:30pm. Sign-up sheet will be available soon at the Welcome Desk. Questions? Contact organizers Barb Karowich (734-480-1644) or Linda Waara (734-245-5733).



# Forever Young Visits Eastern Market



Over the years, Christ Our Savior's Forever Young group has been visiting a number of interesting and historical Detroit locations—such as the Michigan Central Train Station, St. Anne's Cathedral, the Guardian and Fisher Buildings, the DIA, Belle Isle, Diamond Jack's Riverboat Cruise. This past week we added the Eastern Market to our repertoire!

Our generation has lived through some of Detroit's prosperous golden years, we have witnessed and experienced Detroit's sad decline and now we are participating in a revitalized, rebuilt Detroit! After years of avoiding Detroit, we now tour and embrace our city's proud, exciting, beautiful past! There is so much to see and learn, Forever Young will be busy!



The Eastern Market was now calling! A Detroit cornerstone for 125 years, with hundreds of vendors, shops, stores, restaurants, it is a premier public marketplace—a place and experience southeast Michiganders do not want to miss! So, last Tuesday morning, thirty-three COS members, visitors and friends eagerly clambered aboard our school bus transport (which we are now adapting to!) and headed out. A few members of the group had never been to Eastern Market, though most had, but

maybe not for years. We were greatly anticipating the sight of it again!

Oh, the variety of goods, produce, flowers, crafts, the culture, the architecture, and the SALES! And, of course, which restaurant for lunch?! VIVIO'S it was! An 1893 building set amidst an antique strip of architecture resembling Old West storefronts—all filled with bakery items, cheeses, meats, and souvenirs galore! More shopping to do after lunch—we couldn't leave Eastern Market empty-handed!

It was so good to sit down in air-conditioned comfort, out of the 90-degree heat and street-shopping bustle. After an hour of lunch and busily visiting together, it was time for last minute shopping and back to our awaiting bus. Our bus driver Jonathon (pronounced Yonathon) was terrific, getting us there and back with no mishaps. We made a friend of him and he sweetly mentioned to me "Y'all make me feel so good!"—which is one of Forever Young's aims—that Christ is recognized in us!

Another fine Detroit memory to tuck away!

—Linda Waara

Photos by Natalie Hansen



Thursday, September 11 is a tour of Henry Ford's early Piquette Avenue Plant with a lunch at Livonia Buddy's beforehand! See you there!!

# Memorials and Gifts

|                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>In memory of Richard Trame</b>                                                                                                                                             | <b>Intended for:</b><br><br>General Fund<br><br>Fur Blessings<br><br>Family of God Meals                                                                                                   | <b>Given by:</b><br><br>Sue & Paul Burke, Mike & Marcie Humes, John & Mary Marasco, James C. Pappas, Elena Pappes-Schils<br>Karen Hansen, Marian C. Malek<br>Ruth Germeroth                                         |
| <b>In memory of Bill Ruth</b>                                                                                                                                                 | <b>Intended for:</b><br><br>General Fund<br><br>Family of God                                                                                                                              | <b>Given by:</b><br><br>Kathleen Aubuchon-Ruth, Judith Mayle<br>Susan Thomson                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>In Memory of:</b><br>Mike Farabaugh<br>Jim Mitchell<br>Dan Sherick<br>Robert Zaske<br>Michael Farabaugh<br>Bill Reynolds<br>Dan Sherick<br>Jim Mitchell<br>Nancy Hermanson | <b>Intended for:</b><br>General Fund<br>General Fund<br>Food Pantry<br>Family of God<br>Family of God<br>Family of God<br>Family of God<br>Family of God<br>Family of God<br>Family of God | <b>Given by:</b><br>Kathleen Aubuchon-Ruth<br>Richard & Phyllis Nader<br>Bruce & Nina Howard<br>Susan Thomson<br>Susan Thomson<br>Susan Thomson<br>Susan Thomson<br>Susan Thomson<br>Susan Thomson<br>Susan Thomson |
| <b>In Honor of:</b><br>Janeen Crittenden                                                                                                                                      | <b>Intended for:</b><br>Music Ministry                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Given by:</b><br>Robert & Barbara Moldenhauer                                                                                                                                                                    |

## Membership Updates

### *As of August 25, 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@choursavior.org) or the church office (734-522-6830).*

#### Deceased

- Richard Trame on July 1, 2025
- Nancy Kleven on Aug 2, 2025
- Orrick Shephard on Jun 15, 2025

#### Removed by Transfer to Other LCMS

- Emily Myers on Aug 18, 2025

#### Removed by Other

- Amanda McKay on Jul 24, 2025
- Diane McKay on Jul 24, 2025
- Mark McKay on Jul 24, 2025

#### Unreachable Members:

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

## ~~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

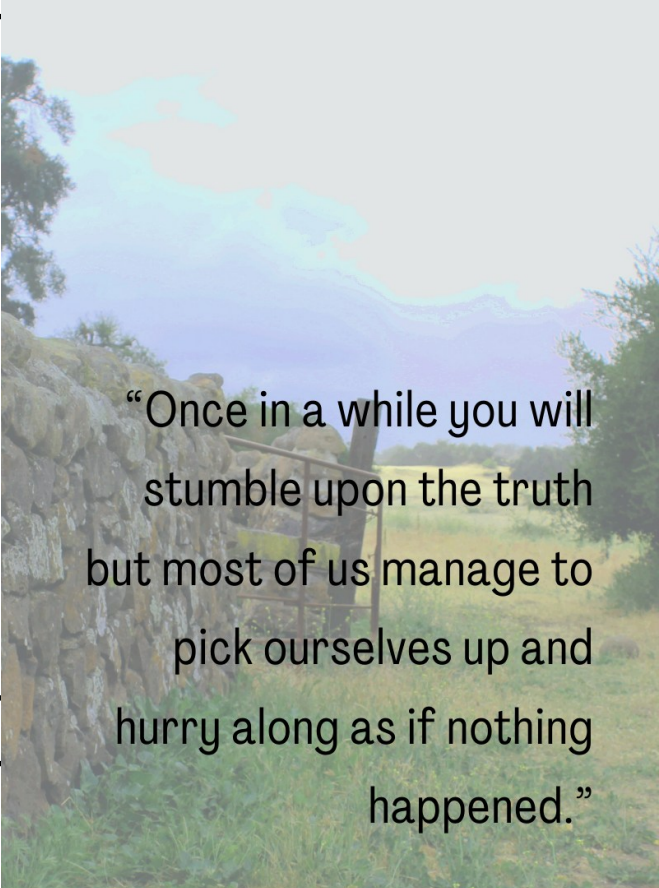
### >>One Lot Available in Glen Eden Cemetery

Asking \$1,000

Block 29-Garden of Ascension  
Section 691  
Grave #6

Contact: Jean Hishmeh (248-798-9233)

## Food for Thought



“Once in a while you will  
stumble upon the truth  
but most of us manage to  
pick ourselves up and  
hurry along as if nothing  
happened.”

*attributed to Winston Churchill*



### 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](mailto: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.