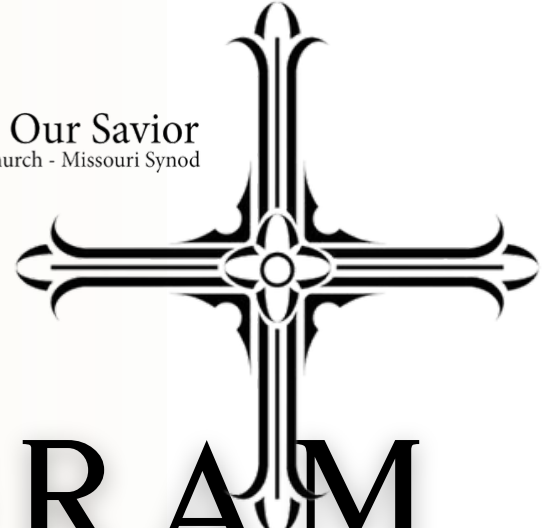


September/October 2026

Christ Our Savior  
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod



# DISCIPLEGRAM

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

## Greetings!

### In This Update

- Greetings from Vicar Fritz
- Women's Ministry News
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- Youth Ministry News
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- Membership Updates
- Classifieds
- Food for Thought
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- Insert: Updates on constitution/bylaws

September is almost here, and that means the school bells are about to ring. For some, maybe they already have. The fall season and the beginning of another school year were always a favorite time of mine. It usually started with shopping sprees for clothes and gym shoes, then off to Kresge for paper, binders, pencils, pens, erasers, and such.

Led by the Spirit, September is once again an exciting time for me as my third year at Concordia Theological Seminary—Fort Wayne is about to begin. The first eight classes are behind me—eight down and eight to go!

Were those favorite times for you as well? Did you look forward to getting back to see friends you hadn't seen for three months? Does the arrival of fall still bring a desire to learn and to grow?

Many of you have been traveling this summer, or maybe you've been spending significant time at a cottage. As fall begins, it's time to see one another again, in worship and in Bible class.

Scripture repeatedly encourages us to continue in God's Word. Jesus told those who believed in Him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31–32). Later, Paul wrote to Timothy, "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." (2 Timothy 3:16–17).

Just as you would tell your children, learning is important. I frequently heard while growing up that attending school would help determine your level of comfort in later years. No doubt, digging into God's Word readies us for the rest of our lives as well. The explanation to the 2nd Petition of the Lord's Prayer states that we receive the Holy Spirit so that "by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity."

This is a busy and exciting time for Christian education at Christ Our Savior. There are many Bible study offerings, with opportunities to be in the Word nearly every day of

the week. Take a look at what is being offered this fall and see where you might fit in.

### **WEEK DAY / TIME / CLASS**

#### **Sunday Mornings @ 9:45am**

Tech-wise Family  
Joseph (Genesis narrative)  
Bethel (2-year walk through Scripture)  
Youth – Enduring Faith  
Sunday School – Enduring Faith

#### **Sunday Evenings**

5pm dinner followed by 6pm instruction  
Instruction for Kids, Confirmants, High School, Adults, and Dads

#### **Monday Evenings @ 6pm**

Lutheran Foundations

#### **Tuesday Mornings @ 10am**

Women's Bible Class – Following Jesus' command, track Paul's missionary journeys in Acts

#### **Tuesday Evenings @ 6:30pm**

Men's Bible Class – The Book of Acts

#### **Wednesday Mornings @ 11am**

Adult Bible Class – Various Topics

#### **Wednesday Evenings @ 6:30pm**

Women's Bible Class – "The Power of a Woman's Words"

#### **Saturday Morning @ 10am**

Men's Bible Class – LHM "What they didn't teach you in Sunday School"

### **START DATE / INSTRUCTOR**

#### **Beginning September 20<sup>th</sup>**

Josh Kittleman  
Pastor Davenport / Pastor Joel  
Judy Mayle  
Youth Leaders  
Sunday School Leaders

#### **Beginning September 14<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Beginning September 14<sup>th</sup>**

Pastor Davenport / Vicar Fritz

#### **Beginning September 8<sup>th</sup>**

Susan Thomson

#### **Beginning September 8<sup>th</sup>**

Jacob Knock

#### **Currently in Progress**

Family of God Pastors

#### **Beginning September 9<sup>th</sup>**

Sandy Keil

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month**

Bob Cochran

### **LOCATION**

TBD- see Update  
TBD- See Update  
Chapel  
Youth Room  
Rooms 8 & 9

Gym

Room 4

Rooms 5 & 6

Rooms 5 & 6

Rooms 1-3

Rooms 5 & 6

Rooms 5 & 6

If seeking Small Group Bible Study opportunities, contact Josh Kittleman for information.

I hope that you find these offerings exciting and that you look forward to attending one or more of them. Bible class isn't just an opportunity to listen and learn, but to ask questions, discuss God's Word, and contribute to the conversation. Still, you may ask, "Why attend?"

Being in God's Word builds us up in the body of Christ. We learn who God is and what He has done for us. His Word shows us our sinful condition and our need for a Savior, and there we see God's grace and glory in Christ.

His Word strengthens us in our faith. It prepares us to face reproach and rejection. It helps us discern right from wrong according to God's will. It equips us to do good works—to love and serve our neighbor. And the more we

learn of God and what He has done for us, the more we hunger to dig deeper into His Word and know Him better.

Being in the Word, both privately and in fellowship with one another, also builds relationships among us so that we are better able to know, encourage, and love one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Have you been missing some of your brothers and sisters here at Christ Our Savior? Maybe they've been missing you too. As the school bells ring again this fall, come back to class. Invite a brother or sister to attend a class or two with you. It's a great time to get back into God's Word—and to see some of those old pals and gals again.



-Vicar Fritz



# Successful Convention!

## Women's Ministry News

### LWML Michigan District Convention 2026

The LWML convention held in June at Kellogg Center in Lansing was a success. Our Wayne Oak Hills district and two others worked together to make it happen. Below you will find the grants that were approved.

#### LWML MICHIGAN DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF 2026-2028 MISSION GRANTS

1. CTSFW Food Co-op Purchase Food for Seminary Students--Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne: \$15,000
2. I was Hungry and You Fed Me--Orphan Grain Train: \$18,000
3. Life and Hope for Moms in Need--Daughters on a Mission (The Luke Clinic): \$25,000
4. Mercy House Today and Tomorrow--Franklin Avenue Mission: \$22,000
5. Engage and Equip Michigan Youth 4 Life--Lutherans for Life: \$25,000
6. Catalyzing Hearts and Transforming Lives Through the Love of Christ-- Camp Restore Detroit: \$25,000
7. Living Word Orphanage Village in Yambia, South Sudan: \$25,000
8. Increasing Access to Christ Centered Counseling--Concordia Counseling: A Lutheran Outreach Ministry: \$25,000
9. Reaching Distant Nations: Open Doors for Gospel Proclamation--MOST Ministries: \$25,000
10. Adventures to Achievement: Children's Summer Bible Camps--Gifts For All God's Children: \$16,415
11. Building Bodies, Building Faith, A2E Sports Camp--LCMS Michigan District: \$25,000
12. Seeing Jesus Through Braille and Large Print--Lutheran Braille Workers California: \$20,000
13. A Chance In a Christian School--Salem National, Westland MI: \$14,835

TOTAL AMOUNT \$281,250

"Attending the LWML convention this summer was a very meaningful experience for me. So many women joined in song, prayer and hearts! Watching the colorful



display of handmade banners carried in by each zone of our Michigan District was a beautiful sight to behold and my heart swelled to be among such a throng of Lutheran women who serve the Lord in so many ways in their communities and home congregations. Of course, one of the most important convention tasks is to decide how the proceeds of our "Mite" boxes will be distributed among SO many God-pleasing and worthy organizations and projects. This is done by delegate votes on proposed grant requests. What is most amazing is how God takes our filled little purple boxes and magnifies them to support hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of projects here and in distant corners of the world. Please make a point of taking a little mite box in the narthex and being part of the LWML support team and consider how you might be used in this vital ministry!"

*-Submitted by Vicky Grocki*



A JOYFUL HEART IS GOOD MEDICINE.  
(PROVERBS 17:22A)

*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.*

## Volunteer/Outreach Opportunity Wellspring

We had a group of volunteers go to Wellspring to clean up the two courtyards. Going forward we will be seeking persons to help facilitate opportunities to aid, lead and assist various functions and actively be involved with Wellspring in various capacities. Activities include Lawn/garden, cooking/baking, crafts, decorating for Christmas party and others to be determined. Please contact Dianne Sherman (734-812-5172) if interested.

## Upcoming Events

### September

Sept 12– Trunk Sale  
Sept 12– Quilt/Sew  
Sept 14 – Quilt/Sew  
Sept 18 – Game Night  
Sept 20 – WOWLWML Kick off  
Sept 28- Quilt/Sew

### October

Oct 11- Women's Ministry Sunday  
Oct 3 – Quilt/Sew  
Oct 12 – Quilt/Sew  
Oct 26 – Quilt/Sew  
Oct 16 – Game Night

## Trunk Sale

Need to do some house cleaning? We are looking for participants for the Trunk Sale to be held Saturday, September 12th. For those of you who don't know what a trunk sale is, let me explain. This is an opportunity for you to bring items you wish to part with/sell, set-up a display/tables in your designated space, keeping your sale dollars. We only ask you to make a donation to our youth by participating. The Sale will be open for sales at 9am and at 2pm you will pack the unsold items back in your auto, hopefully having less to repack. If you have any questions regarding this event, contact: Dianne Sherman at 734-812-5172.

## School Totes for Lutheran World Relief

Apples and sign-up sheets are available at the Welcome Desk. We are approximately halfway to filling 300 totes. Please consider helping to reach our goal.

## Game Night for the Grown-Ups

WOW would like to have you join us for GAME NIGHTS slated for Friday September 18th and Friday October 16- FROM 6:30PM-9PM. 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. There will be a sign-up sheet at the welcome desk.

## Women's LWML/WOW Kickoff for 2026-2027

All women are invited. Event to be held Sunday September 20 at 12:30 in the Gym to kick off the upcoming year. Details to follow in updates.



# Celebrating 50 Years of Blessings

## Christ Our Savior's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On November 22, 2026, Christ Our Savior will celebrate a milestone, its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, declaring the praises of God.

On November 21, 1976, the last of the three Missouri Synod Lutheran Churches located in Livonia voted to join the new Association of Evangelical Lutheran Church: the AELC. This left Livonia, a community of 100,000 people, without a Missouri Synod congregation.

The decision to leave the Missouri Synod and join the AELC was not greeted warmly by all the members of the three Lutheran congregations. Those who would not accept the new doctrinal stance of the AELC were left without a church. Christ Our Savior was born out of this crisis.

Those people who wished to remain faithful to the doctrinal and evangelical stance of the Missouri Synod and who would ultimately lay the foundation for Christ Our Savior, held their first worship service in the evening of November 28, 1976, at Holy Trinity. The Rev. Ralph G. Schmidt led the service with 137 people in attendance.

The Rev. Bornemann commended those present for supporting the Missouri Synod and encouraged them to put their faith in God. That evening the new Livonia Mission Church was formed.

During the early months of organization, the Rev. Ralph Schmidt, assistant pastor at St. Paul's Northville, together with the Rev. Roy Pranschke, pastor at Hosanna-Tabor in Redford, were instrumental in giving counseling and guidance to the young Mission Church as it took steps to become a full-fledged chartered Missouri Synod Lutheran Church. The new Mission Church was now firmly planted in the Word and began to take root and grow as God blessed and directed their efforts.



A regular meeting place to hold services needed to be established as soon as possible. First the steering committee's request for permission to hold regular evening worship services using Holy Trinity's facilities was denied. Wanting to remain in Livonia, the next choice was the Senior's Center on Farmington Road and it was not available. On December 9, 1976, a cold and icy Thursday evening, Jerry List, Marv Moser, and Suann Dibble met with Harry Will at the H. J. Will Funeral Home on Six Mile in Livonia to ask permission to worship in one of the chapels in the funeral home. Harry Will positively replied, "I've been waiting to be asked!" Worship services began the following Sunday, December 12, 1976, in the southeast Chapel with 65 families in attendance.

We hope you can join us on Sunday, November 22, 2026 as we celebrate one of the important anniversaries of our congregation. Rev. Ralph G. Schmidt will preach at our worship services. The pastor who helped us find our beginning will preach at our 50-year anniversary--praise be to God!

# How Was Your Summer?

## Youth Ministry News



It's been a great summer for our youth here at COS, and we are so grateful for everything God has been doing in and through our youth! We wanted to take a few minutes to recap some highlights from the summer before sharing what's ahead this fall.

Here are some of the things that took place over the summer:

- **Summer Youth Night** Our youth met weekly on Wednesday evenings. From water wars, to campfires, to great conversations about our value in Christ, to the final Jello throw-down that took place during the last summer youth night, it was a special time of the week for many of our youth.
- **Michigan District Sr. High Gathering** 13 students and 4 adults headed up to Mackinac Island and joined hundreds of high schoolers from across the district for a really compelling gathering! We're happy that our students were part of it!
- **Michigan District Jr. High Gathering** 11 students and 5 adults made their way to Frankenmuth for a wonderful time at the Bavarian Inn. This was a GREAT group that represented COS well!
- **Honduras Mission Trip** It's worth noting that a middle schooler, a high schooler, and a college student from COS joined 12 adults in serving the people of Honduras in early August. What a blessing it was to have our young people as part of that team!
- **Vacation Bible School** Dozens of our middle school and high school students showed up to serve the children who joined us for VBS in June. Watching our older youth pour into our younger ones is always a major

highlight of the entire year!

### What's Coming Up This Fall

The fall is shaping up to be an exciting one!

Here's a look at what's on the calendar:

- **Family Night and Confirmation Begin on September 13th!** Dinner is at 5:00 PM, with our evening programming to follow. There is something for the whole family. Friends are always welcome!
- **Midnight Madness on September 18th.** If you've been to one of our lock-ins before, you know they're a great time.
- **Three Cedars Trip on October 24th.** This is a fun outing for youth and their families. We do a hay ride, a corn maze, and end at a campfire with cider and donuts.
- **Craft and Vendor Show on November 7th.** This is our 3rd "annual" show. It is both a great fundraiser for youth ministry and wonderful opportunity to interact with vendors and people from our community. We need "all hands on deck" to make this run smoothly.
- **Road Rally on November 21st.** This has turned into a great fall tradition, and laughter is almost always guaranteed!

### We love our Volunteers!

None of this happens without our incredible team of volunteers who genuinely care about our students and love spending time with them. We are so grateful for each of you. If you have ever thought about getting involved with youth ministry at COS, please don't hesitate to reach out to Nathan Troike or Pastor Joel.



# Waves

Diane Kaye

Twilight seeps through window glass

Supper dishes stacked

Waiting

Warm water flows

Soap bubbles spackling

Smell of clean permeates

I wash, you dry

Our task envelopes us

with a familiar

intimacy

Our chat about the mundane

Punctuated by

thoughtful silence

We smile at warm memories

Put away

and tidy up

Plan and hope

as dusk surrounds.



# New Vision–Broken to Beautiful

## 2026 Mission Trip to Honduras

### Providing Eyeglasses and Art in Honduras

As I stood at the bathroom sink the morning after our 2:00 a.m. arrival from Honduras, I gleefully splashed running tap water on my face. For the past seven days, I had been pouring bottled water in a small collapsible bowl to complete this simple morning task – warned NOT to ingest the tap or shower water. Though I have been blessed to travel much in my young life, going to this extreme was only necessary one other time. How fortunate we are to live in a country where there is a well-developed infrastructure! Where sanitation takes precedence for our basic needs–water, food, trash collection. Where our electricity offers reliable power to our buildings, appliances, devices, transportation, etc., and wires are protected and limited. Where our roads have traffic lights, vehicles have spaces to park other than sidewalks, and streets are wide enough to pass without causing one of the oncoming vehicles to shift into reverse because they are smaller.

Since I've been gone, someone asked, was the land beautiful? I had to pause. Despite all of what I witnessed in the challenged landscape; yes, there was beauty. Hills and valleys. Flowers and gardens. Fountains. All things we saw mainly on our last full 'cultural day.' But honestly, for me, it was the PEOPLE who were beautiful! Our welcome at the airport from our country host and deaconess, gave us a hug I'll never forget! Sincere. Long. Tight. She'd never met us, but her love for Jesus, and our aid to her people made her love us. We were family from the start with no biological, earthly connection. The Hondurans' patience, warmth, and active listening skills to understand despite our language barrier were unmatched.





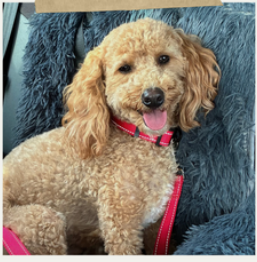
For the past seven months, my team and I had been preparing for these specific seven days—two travel days, four clinic days, and one cultural day, all wrapped up between Friday, 8/7 through Friday, 8/14. While my teammates worked the eyeglass clinic for school aged children, adults, and the elderly serving 542 individuals; I was blessed to work with 52 children who had to wait roughly 45 minutes for their parents to move through the clinic stations. Each stop was a process—registration, education and witnessing, screening, testing for distance and reading, pulling, dispensing, and lastly fitting. While my crew witnessed much and assisted some in astronomical ways; I spent time teaching God's youngest the story behind John 3:16. Following, we discussed mosaics, where they could be found, and how to make them. This simple project I had spent hours planning and preparing, delighted the kids, allowing them to be creative with color while retaining what they learned Biblically. These fragmented pieces combined together were much like their landscape—broken, yet beautiful.

While one adult patient required a negative 12.75 script, another came back to our clinic the third day after some thought and reassurance for a white cane, prompting a moving celebration of prayer and blessings. The ache of distortion was erased with corrective lentes—and whether a child left with a newly completed art piece, or an adult walked out with new glasses and sight; smiles overtook challenged faces. Brokenness became whole! We may have served the Hondurans, but they showed us joy in Jesus despite their shortcomings all around. Perhaps, you could say, because they had less, they had more.

-Natalie Hansen







Toffee in Transport

LHWL  
5/14/2026

# Changing Lives with Love

## A Dog With a Calendar All His Own!

I've had the pleasure of watching Toffee over the past two years grow from a young, excitable, friendly pup into an intelligent, obedient, intuitive canine. One particular constant is the LOVE he is ready to share – enthusiastically. Whether at the door to his home, on a walk, or “in place” at a visit, his love NEVER fails! Undeniably, we are blessed with a Heavenly Father who shares an even purer, unconditional, unfailing love. A love that allows us to draw near no matter the circumstances – at any time of the day.

Since Toffee earned his Therapy Dog Certification in September 2025, he has been a busy boy – learning, working, settling, and loving! Under the organization he received his Therapy Dog status, he has made multiple

visits to schools--elementary to university, libraries, senior centers, and then some. All this, to further prepare him for you, his COS family. Since the 'Fur Blessings' Ministry dedication on Sunday, 4/12/2026, he has shared his love between Sunday services every month, April through August. He has also made community visits to Lutheran High Westland in May during their 'Wellness Week,' in June and July to Wellspring Lutheran Services, and to Fountain Bleu Health and Rehabilitation Center in July. His first homebound visit was made as well this August! If you haven't met Toffee, be sure to say “Hello!” We have some further off-site visits planned, and others in house to help him share his love! Though his calendar is busy, he's always looking to meet someone new!

-Natalie Hansen



Toffee's crew

Sunday Welcome  
6/14/2026Fountain Bleu  
7/2/2026

Students Engage

# New Home for Holy Gifts

## Gifts from Hosanna-Tabor

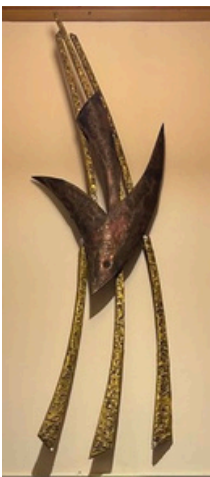
Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church (HT) in Redford closed in July 2025 and many items used in her 70 years in ministry were gifted to many congregations in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Christ Our Savior (COS) received a number of these items and it is a blessing that they can be used by a sister congregation that many former HT members attend. The following is a list and description of items that were gifted to Christ Our Savior.

### ***Metal Artwork – Symbols of God the Father and God the Holy Spirit***

The metalwork that was on either side of the altar at HT has been hung in the COS narthex. These two pieces are representations of two of the three persons of our Triune God and have rich symbolism.



The “**Father**” symbol shows God’s hand in a position of blessing with the three fingers of the only true and living God extended toward us. This blessing comes to us by means of the cross of Jesus Christ and the final blessing is to receive the crown of glory in eternal life.



The “**Holy Spirit**” symbol is a stylized dove. The presence and power of the Holy Spirit swoops down among God’s people in their worship and goes with them into their lives. The Holy Spirit is eternal and has always been one with the Father and the Son.

### **The Altar and the Christus**

Hosanna-Tabor’s Italian Cremona Altar was made in Italy and was relocated to COS’

narthex to be used as a gathering spot for various collections throughout the year. The COS Property Team is studying a way to incorporate the Christus in the COS’ property. Pastor Davenport worked diligently with the pastor from the Baptist Church that purchased the HT building, to move the altar

and the Christus from HT to COS. It was an extensive effort since the altar weighs more than 5,000 pounds and the height of the Christus statue is approximately 18 feet tall.



The **Altar** is a modified diamond shape to depict the worth of Christ’s sacrifice. As that is ever the chief tenet of the Christian faith, so the altar will always be a main focal point in the church. It stands out in gleaming white marble and is massive in appearance and essence as the sacrifice of God’s Son will always be for all who believe in Him.

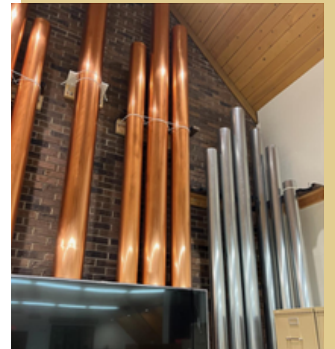
The “**Christus**” sculpture of our Lord, inviting all to Him to receive His blessings is centered in what He did on the center cross.



### **Organ Pipes and Piano**

Tom Schroder, COS Music Director, was instrumental in finding a home for the Steiner-Reck pipe organ. In October of 2025, Trinity Lutheran in Reece, MI received 1,039 of the organ pipes. COS received 831 pipes ranging from 4” to 16 feet in length. Pipe sounds: Principal, Flute, String and Reeds / Pipe composition: lead, zinc, tin, and copper. The piano from the church balcony has found a new home in the COS’ Chapel.

It is a special pleasure that these items have found a home at COS since a member of COS, Dave Milz, utilized these instruments to lead worshippers in glorifying God during his long ministry at Hosanna – Tabor as our organist and music director.



-submitted by Jim Pranschke





Christ Our Savior is blessed with a generous congregation that is eager to serve others. Unfortunately, those positive qualities also make us an attractive target for scammers. Recent incidents, including criminals impersonating staff and a compromised staff email account, have made this clear. We're strengthening account security on our end, but there's little we can do to stop someone from impersonating a staff member using an outside email address. That's why member education is our best defense against these types of scams.

These are not harmless pranks. Scams like these have cost victims their life savings, and older adults are targeted disproportionately — not because they're careless, but because scammers deliberately study and exploit trust, politeness, and unfamiliarity with newer technology. If this describes you or someone you love, please take it to heart and pass it along to them.

Keep an eye out for the following scam indicators:

- **UNKNOWN:** You receive a call/text/email from a number/address you do not recognize, especially if the email is not an "@christoursavior.org" address.
- **ERRORS:** The message has unusual wording, misspellings, and/or grammatical errors.
- **URGENCY:** You are being asked to do something right away — it's important!!
- **SECRECY:** You are being asked not to tell

# Scam Awareness & Safety

## Safety & Emergency Readiness Team (SERT)

anyone else and to keep it discreet.

- **FEAR:** You are being threatened or told something bad will happen to you.
- **FILES:** You are being asked to open a file attachment, especially if you were not expecting one from this person.
- **LINKS:** You are being asked to click on a website link.
- **MONEY:** You are being asked to send someone money directly, or to buy gift cards or cryptocurrency to send to someone.
- **SENSITIVITY:** You are being asked for sensitive information about yourself, COS, or another member at COS.

Any one of these indicators does not immediately mean that a given message is a scam — I certainly am not a perfect speller, I email website links to family & friends, and occasionally I'll send a church-related email from my personal email instead of my COS email. However, the more of these indicators you see in a message, the more suspicious you should be.

### A word on caller ID and "familiar" voices:

Both a phone number's caller ID and an email's "From" address can be faked to look legitimate, so seeing a familiar name does not confirm who actually sent the message. Increasingly, scammers can also use artificial intelligence (AI) to mimic a familiar voice, including a pastor's or a family member's, closely enough to fool the ear. A voice or name you recognize is not proof of identity. The only reliable way to confirm a request is genuine is to call back using a number you already have on file, never a number provided in the suspicious message itself.

### If it happens outside church office hours:

Scammers often strike in the evening, on weekends, or on holidays, specifically because they know the church office is closed, and you can't immediately verify anything. This is by design, not bad luck. If you can't reach the office right away:

- Do not act on the message. A legitimate request from COS will still be legitimate tomorrow morning; it does not need to be resolved tonight.
- The pressure to act before the office reopens is itself one of the strongest warning signs [see "Urgency" above].
- Wait and call during business hours or leave a voicemail or email for a callback.
- The church's regular office hours are Monday- Friday, 9AM- 4PM.
- You can contact the office at (734) 522-6830 or [info@choursavior.org](mailto:info@choursavior.org)
- If you believe you or someone else is in immediate danger, call 911. This guidance is about financial scams, not emergencies.

### If you receive a suspicious message claiming to be from someone at COS:

1. Do not open any file attachments.
2. Do not click on any website links.
3. Do not reply to the message.
4. If you're unsure, ask a trusted family member or friend before responding to anything.
5. Call the church office at (734) 522-6830 and ask to speak with the sender directly to confirm the message is authentic. Remember to call a number you already have on file, not one provided in the suspicious message.
6. If the message was a scam, notify the office and report it as spam to your email or phone provider (or simply delete it).

### If you've already sent money or information:

Acting quickly matters more than anything else at this point:

- Call your bank or card issuer immediately. A wire transfer or bank payment can sometimes be reversed

within the first 24 hours, and gift card issuers can occasionally freeze a balance if the card hasn't been redeemed yet.

- Then call the church office so we can alert other members and staff.
- Consider filing a report with your local police department, especially for larger losses.

Finally, and most importantly: if this happens to you, you will not be judged. These scams are designed by professional criminals to fool smart, careful people, and exploit their trust and generosity. The shame in these situations belongs to the scammer, not the victim. Staying quiet only protects the criminal and puts your neighbors at risk. Telling us helps us warn and protect the rest of the congregation.

Gunther Ruck,  
Chairman of the Safety  
& Emergency Readiness  
Team (SERT)

Questions, comments,  
or concerns?  
Contact us:  
[SERT@choursavior.org](mailto:SERT@choursavior.org) |  
Church office: (734) 522-6830



## 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@choursavior.org](mailto:alysak@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!





# Memorials

*Given in memory of:*

*Intended for:*

*Given by:*

Charles Michael Sauber

General Fund

Marian Malek

Joanne Werner

General Fund

Dorothy Barnier

Doris Kaiser

General Fund

Michael & Karen Beard, William Berlin, Randy & Deborah Eckerman, Jason Gabridge, Richard Harkness, Alan & Cynthia Helisek, Linda Kashawlic, Thomas & Janet Meekins, Marcia Miller, Phil & Liz Pepera, Douglas & Janet Szopo, Bob Washer

Food Pantry

Donna Chambo



## Summer was a Blast!

### Early Childhood Program News



Well, just like that, our summer is coming to an end. But what a great summer it was! Our ECP staff and children enjoyed a fantastic summer program together filled with fun activities and special days. From pizza days, to water days, to time at our local park, our children had some great experiences this summer! Our early childhood program also participated in COS Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School in June. It was such a blessing to have them join us in all the rotations of VBS. Every day they learned a bit about our amazing God!

As we prepare for the new school year, a portion of our ECP staff traveled to Frankenmuth on Friday, August 7th for our annual ECP Training that is put on by the Michigan District. Dr. Joy Roberts served as our keynote speaker, and it was a great learning experience for our team. We're thankful for opportunities like this that help equip our staff to serve our children and families so well!

With training behind them, our staff have been hard at work getting classrooms ready and hearts prepared to welcome our children back for a brand new school year! We're looking forward to all that God has in store for our ECP children and their families in the months ahead. We kick off the year with an Open House for our families on

Thursday, Sept. 3rd. This is a great way for the children to get acclimated to their new classrooms.

We're also excited to bring back Coffee Connections beginning in September! These are special mornings, once a month, when our church staff greets parents and children with coffee and treats as everyone arrives for the day. It's a wonderful way for us to get to know our ECP families better - and it also helps families to put some faces to names of various staff members who will be leading chapel with their child on Wednesdays!

Looking ahead to October, we're thrilled to announce our first ever GLOW NIGHT! Our ECP families, along with all COS and community families, are invited to join us for an evening of music and dancing on Saturday, October 10th. We're so excited for this one - it's going to be a fun night for the whole family, and we hope that many people are able to join us!

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 so grateful for the ongoing support of our Christ Our Savior family!

# Membership Updates

As of July 24, 2026

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

If you have any questions about the information presented here, please contact the chairman of the Board of Elders, Mark Anders (ElderMarkAnders@chrisoursavior.org) or the church office (734-522-6830).

## Deceased

Doris Kaiser on July 11

## Received by Baptism

Richard E. Linderman on July 5

## Received by Transfer from Other LCMS

Christian Fontaine on Aug 6

Dave Fontaine on Aug 6

Jackie Fontaine on Aug 6

Keira Fontaine on Aug 6

## Removed by Transfer to Other LCMS

Michelle Dolan on May 4

Payton Dolan on May 4

Rylan Dolan on May 4

Kelly Fornwalt on July 1

Rydere Fornwalt on July 1

Diane Johnson on May 4

Caleb O'Hara on June 30

Hannah O'Hara on June 30

Molly O'Hara on June 30

Olivia O'Hara on June 30

Sadie O'Hara on June 30

Karen Vitale on May 4

Nicole Vitale on May 4

## Removed by Peaceful Release

Corrine Aldouby on May 4

Ashleigh Baker on May 4

Reese Baker on May 4

Kristine Baker on May 4

Rachael Baker on May 4

Erin Baker on May 4

Andrew Barnes on May 4

Christina Barnes on May 4

Alexandrea Barnes on May 4

Rebecca Bates on May 4

Patrick Becht on May 4

Ronald Blauet on May 4

Donna Blauet on May 4

Kayla Blauet on May 4

Alexander Blauet on May 4

Gregory Bouffard on May 4

Katherine Bouffard on May 4

Jennifer Brewer on May 4

Aria Brewer on May 4

Harrison Brewer on May 4

Carlos Cardenas on May 4

Paula Cardenas on May 4

Lydia Cardenas on May 4

Louis Cardenas on May 4

Cheryl Chanko on May 4

Ryan Chanko on May 4

Jason Chapman on May 4

Jennifer Christy on May 4

Gabriel Christy on May 4

Caleb Christy on May 4

Lauren Cipkar on May 4

Michael Cipkar on May 4

Justin Collins on May 4

Taylor Collins on May 4

Heather DeSandre on May 4

Athena Douglas on May 4

Sylvia Garcia on May 4

Gregory Goll on May 4

Isabella Goll on May 4

Sierra Goll on May 4

Elizabeth Goll on May 4

Anthony Goll on May 4

Nicholas Goll on May 4

Olivia Goll on May 4

Emily Hahn on May 4

David Havens on May 4

Elieen Havens on May 4

Kevin Havens on May 4

Ryan Havens on May 4

Ceferino Hernandez on May 4

Lila Hernandez on May 4

Stephen Hofmeister on May 4

Andrew Hofmeister on May 4

Aili Hrushka on May 4

Scott Hrushka on May 4

Poppy Jaroh on May 4

Adam Jenovai on May 4

Amelia Jenovai on May 4

Tessa Jenovai on May 4

Thomas Jenovai on May 4

Evan Kamrath on May 4

Jeffrey Klein on May 4

Kevin Knueppel on May 4

Nancy Kouba on May 4

Cameron Kouba on May 4

Carson Kouba on May 4

Kelsey Kovacik on May 4

Donald Locasio on May 4

Linda Locasio on May 4

Ryan Mack on May 4

Marlie McCloy on May 4

Brynn McFall on May 4

Kevin Muller on May 4

Todd Norris on May 4

Timothy Norris on May 4

Betty Jane Parshall on May 4

Ashley Reeves on May 4

Brandon Reiten on May 4

Logan Reiten on May 4

Philip Reske on May 4

Laura Riegle on May 4

Mark Sablacan on May 4

Ryan Schanerberger on May 4

Michael Schmitt on May 4

Bryan Schwesing on May 4

Jack Schwesing on May 4

Max Schwesing on May 4

Jennifer Shepardson on May 4

Ari Shepardson on May 4

Bryant Taylor on May 4

Laura Thero on May 4

Kathryn Tomasaitis on May 4

Kaylin Vlnes on May 4

Jamie Wilkins on May 4

Alexander Wilkins on May 4

Brody Wilkins on May 4

Renee Wilkins on May 4

Angel Willis on May 4

Brenda Wollard on May 4

Jessica Wummel on May 4



## Classifieds



### *Tutoring*

Karen R. Hoeft  
Tutoring in my home.  
28341 Oakley St., Livonia 48154  
Grades 3-8; all subjects  
(math through grade 5)  
\$20 half hour; \$35 hour  
Call or text 734.837.7711



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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 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.

## Food for Thought

**FAITH NEVER  
KNOWS WHERE IT  
IS BEING LED, BUT IT  
LOVES AND KNOWS  
THE ONE WHO IS  
LEADING**

Oswald Chambers  
*My Utmost for His Highest*

## 2026 School Supplies Collection



**LUTHERAN  
WORLD RELIEF**

Remember the days of going back to school? The excitement of seeing your friends again, the pride of packing your brand-new backpack with empty notebooks and a fresh box of colored pencils, the curiosity of seeing your new classroom and meeting your new teacher?

Help bring that joy and wonder to kids around the world by shopping for school supplies for Lutheran World Relief School kits. Our Women's Ministry has provided sign-up sheets and apples with lists of supplies at the Welcome Desk. If you have any questions, please talk to Dianne Sherman (734-812-5172) or give the church office a call. Drop-off your donations at the Welcome Desk by **September 20**.

Visit [lwr.org/kits/school-kits](http://lwr.org/kits/school-kits) to read stories of some of the children who have received these kits and the impact they have had on their lives.

