

The Heavenly Herald

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE

“How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day?” Psalm 13:1-2a (ESV)

“Two weeks to flatten the curve” – that’s what Governor Lamont called for on March 12, 2020, when he signed his first Covid-19 related executive order; he was closing the schools “for two weeks,” limiting the size of gatherings that could take place, and other actions to mitigate the spread of the new Coronavirus strain that was being seen across the globe and across the state. It is now almost eleven (11) months later and there are still students around the state who have not set foot back in a physical school building since they left on Friday the 13th of March of last year; gatherings are still limited in capacity by executive order, people are still being urged to maintain social distancing of six feet, and we are all expected to wear masks in public settings. “How long, O LORD?”

Vaccines to combat Covid were initially promised to be delivered in the Fall, right around or shortly after the election. Now its past Inauguration Day and only a small percentage of the population has been vaccinated (first responders and emergency medical staff primarily). Many people who were initially signed up to get the vaccine were told to cancel their appointments or face fines, and the rules now in place to get on the list are ridiculously complicated for the senior citizens over the age of 75 who are currently the top priority in the current vaccination efforts. “How long, O LORD?”

Jobs and businesses have been severely impacted by the pandemic. The isolation and the stress of Covid have taken a toll on everyone physically, emotionally, psychologically, and physically. Our nation is fractured and divided like it has not been in decades, with it seeming to be split right down the middle, and calls for unity that

were made during and immediately following the election have not yet born the fruit of any meaningful steps toward bringing the two sides together. If something does not change soon, there is a danger that the divisive politics of recent years may continue just with a different party in power. “How long, O LORD?”

All of this is added to the problems and challenges that normally occur in life – health problems (non-Covid) that arise for yourself or a loved one, financial difficulties, issues at work, broken families, crises of faith, and the general winter blues that occur due to less sunlight and colder temperatures that keep us cooped up inside. People are tired and frustrated; they are overwhelmed and worn out. They need things to change, but it does not look like that is going to happen any time soon. “How long, O LORD?”

I don’t know how you personally are feeling right now, but I do know that many people feel like the Psalmist. We look at all that we and the people around us are going through and we want to know where God is in all of this. We want to know when He’s going to do something about it. We’re right there with the Psalmist as he cries: “How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day?”

Whatever you are going through right now, however you are feeling, know this: God has not forgotten you. He would never, could never do that. You are precious to Him, so precious that He gave His only begotten Son to rescue you from sin, death, and the devil by dying on the cross for you. God is always there for you, even amid the hardships that life brings; that is His promise to You, made

(Continued on page 3)



Come Worship With Us

Sunday Worship Services:

8:00 am & 10:30 am
(Nursery Care Available - 10:30 am)

Sunday School

&

Adult Bible Classes:

9:10 am

Summer Worship Service:

9:00 am
(Fathers Day to Labor Day)



*The Heavenly Herald
is published for members
and friends of Cheshire
Lutheran Church.*

Church Staff

*Rev. Dr. David P. Rowold, PhD
-Pastor*

Carol Santoro-Office Manager

*Martha Medford-Organist &
Choir Director*

Steve Feero-Parish President

Beth Soulier-Editor

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

AND THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Greetings All,



As I sat down to prepare this month's newsletter, the topic of hope came to mind. We have the COVID-19 vaccine being distributed across the globe and many of the front-line workers and higher risk individuals have already been given their first shot or are scheduled to get it shortly. Understanding we are still in the early stage of the process, it certainly gives us hope that there is light at the end of the tunnel to get back to a level of normalcy. An environment where we can see and gather with each other in-person at church for Sunday morning service and fellowship events in larger numbers without masks, so we can see and share each other's smiles and laughter. Until then, with God's grace, please continue to have hope that the time will come sooner than later.

On Sunday, January 10th, our annual congregation corporate meeting was held after each of our worship services. If you were unable to attend in person or watch the livestream, a copy of the annual report and financial statement may be obtained by contacting the church office, and you can watch it on our CLC YouTube channel. Although I was only able to touch on the highlights, I would encourage you all to review the entire report to learn about all the many extraordinary ways that we as a congregation exhibit our faith, service and fellowship to one another and the greater community both locally and globally.

How are you progressing on your new year resolutions? Was one of them to exercise and eat more healthier, or to help with a CLC committee, or particular event? To attend an adult Bible study, or to have your child attend church and Sunday School regularly considering we have remote and socially distanced in-person options for most activities? How about to invite a friend, or new neighbor to a worship service?

We also installed our church Council officers and Deacons on Sunday, January 10th for the 2021 calendar year, and we are blessed to have such a great team of volunteers to lead and carryout our mission plan.

Now that we are several weeks into the new year, how are you progressing on your new year resolutions? Was one of them to exercise and eat more healthier, or to help with a CLC committee, or particular event? To attend an adult Bible study, or to have your child attend church and Sunday School regularly considering we have remote and socially distanced in-person options for most activities? How about to invite a friend, or new neighbor to a worship service? Either way, it is never too late to pick up again, or start fresh. I hope you will find a few ways to put your resolutions into action; at CLC, we have plenty of ways that you can!

Here are the upcoming meeting dates for 2021, and we will publish the rest after our first Council meeting:

Council: Monday, February 8 – 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Voters: Sunday, February 14 – 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

I look forward to getting to know many of you better, and if we have not formally met, please take a moment to introduce yourself. If you have ideas or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach to myself, any council member, or deacon. I can best be reached using the contact info below.

God Bless and see you in church!

Steve Feero
Parish President, CLC
president@cheshirelutheran.org
m (203) 213-7753

(Continued from page 1)

in Holy Scripture and confirmed in Christ Jesus. He speaks these words of comfort and reassurance to you:

“But Zion said, ‘The LORD has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me.’
‘Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands.’” Isaiah 49:14–16a (ESV)

“But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: ‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.’” Isaiah 43:1–3a (ESV)

“He has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’ So we can confidently say, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear.’” Hebrews 13:5b–6a (ESV)

We’re all ready for a change. We’re ready for the virus to be gone and to get back to work, to school, to our lives as they were before the pandemic. We’re ready for divisiveness and partisanship, recriminations, and accusations to end. We’re ready for times of healthy and healing, of joy and laughter. We’re not there yet, but they are on the way. As we wait for them, God is with you and He will see you through. And when they do arrive, we’ll be able to join the author of Psalm 13 in more of the verses that the Holy Spirit inspired him to write, “I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.” Psalm 13:5–6 (ESV).

Until then, the peace of the Lord be with you always.

In Christ,
Pastor R



LENT MIDWEEK SERVICES AND DEVOTIONS...

Lent begins this year during the month of February and Ash Wednesday falls on the 17th. We will be having service that evening at 7:30 p.m. and we’ll have both the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion as part of the service. We will also be having our usual Midweek services at 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday evening during Lent and evening services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday at 7:30 p.m.



Because Covid restrictions remain in place seating will be regulated, so please watch for Sunday announcements and mass emails with more information. We will not be having our traditional Soup & Salad Suppers or the accompanying Bible study because of the pandemic. Lent devotions for adults and for kids will also be available, so watch for more information on those.

COVID -19 PRECAUTIONS REMINDER...

COVID-19 restrictions, as mandated by Governor Lamont’s Executive Orders, remain in place at CLC. When you visit the Church for services or Bible study, please remember to maintain social distancing and to wear your mask from the time that you get out of your car until you get back into it. Hand sanitizer is located at various places in the building thanks to Don Drust and Andy Clark, so please be sure to use it as appropriate when you are in the building.



CLC CHOIR NEWS...



All Choirs continue to rehearse. While it still isn't "business as usual"; we do practice & perform exercising the utmost caution, while still offering beautiful music during Sunday Services. Below are the safety measures and plan for rehearsals and Sunday performances:

Bell Choir:

- ♫ Only 6-7 Bell Choir members will rehearse and perform at a time. This will allow for proper social distancing during rehearsals and Sunday Performances.
- ♫ Masks are worn at all times.
- ♫ Opportunities for rotation of Bell Choir members are available. Call Martha Medford to volunteer for Bell Choir rehearsals and Performances.

Parish Choir:

- ♫ All Parish Choir members will rehearse on Wednesdays, but only 6-7 perform on Sundays.
- ♫ Only 6—7 in Choir Loft at one time.
- ♫ Masks are worn at all times.
- ♫ Opportunities for rotation of Parish Choir members are available. Call Martha Medford to volunteer for Parish Choir Performances.

Martha Medford

CLC ALL CHOIRS REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE...

Date	Time	Event	Choir
February 3 - Wednesday	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
February 7 - Sunday	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir
February 10 - Wednesday	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
February 14 - Sunday	7:15 AM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 AM	Performance	Bell Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Bell Choir
February 17 - Wednesday <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	6:40 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	7:30 PM	Performance	Parish Choir
February 18 - Thursday	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
February 21 - Sunday 1st Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir
February 24 - Wednesday 2nd Wednesday in Lent <i>Midweek Lenten Service</i>	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	7:30 PM	Performance	Parish Choir
	After Service	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
February 25 - Thursday	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
February 28 - Sunday 2nd Sunday in Lent	7:15 AM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 AM	Performance	Bell Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Bell Choir

Our Sincere Appreciation

- ✦ Special thanks to everyone who helped take down the Christmas decorations and Tree this year. Many hands do make light work!
- ✦ Thank You, Thank You, Thank You to Tim Weiland for serving as our CLC photographer and over all Church Historian. Tim can always be seen with camera in hand either during events or even during the week when he is taking pictures at and around our beautiful grounds. We are BLESSED!
- ✦ Another Thank You, Thank You, Thank You to Bill Juul for serving as our CLC videographer and audio recording expert. Check out both Tim's pix and Bills audio and video recordings on our website. Thank you Bill...
- ✦ Sincere thanks to the crew that disassembled our beautiful (Stark) Crèche. You always work so hard to treat it with such loving care. Thank you



WEATHER AND WORSHIP...

Who knows what kind of winter we will have this year! To find out when worship services have been cancelled due to weather conditions, check TV channels WTNH channel 8 or MyTV 9, WFSB channel 3 and on the radio, WTIC 1080 AM. All these stations have websites that list weather closings too! A mass e-mail will also be sent. If you would like to be included on our mass e-mail, please let the church office know.

Stay warm!



CANS AND BOTTLES—BOTTLES AND CANS...

Save your returnable Bottle and Cans. Money raised will benefit Little Cherubs. A collection can is located at the back of the Fellowship Hall by the storage closet.



GREETING CARD FUNDRAISER!

(A project of the Thursday Ladies Group)

A variety of greeting cards with Christian messages are for sale at \$1 each. These high quality cards are displayed in a rack on the counter outside the office. We will continuously update the selection which includes Birthday, Anniversary, Get Well, Sympathy, Thank You, seasonal and miscellaneous choices.

After making your selection, please leave your money or check in the box attached to the display.

Thanks to all who continue to support this ongoing program. As a result of your purchases, \$100 was given to the CLCW on December 20th.

We appreciate your thoughtful participation in making this benevolence so successful.

Contact Person: Paula Ongley

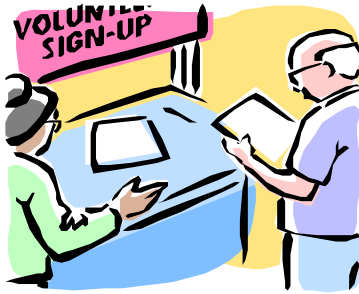


ON THE BULLETIN BOARD:

Remember to check the Bulletin Boards and/or hallway table for sign-up sheets and information about various events!

This month on the Bulletin Board:

- ✦ Cheshire Housing Authority information regarding Section 8 Elderly Housing
- ✦ Volunteers Needed for Hospice information
- ✦ On With Life (OWL) bereavement group information
- ✦ Hope Pregnancy Center 2021 volunteer sign-ups
- ✦ Cheshire Food Drive Volunteer info. and sign-ups
- ✦ 2021 Flower Chart Sign-up
- ✦ Memory Café in Cheshire information
- ✦ Monthly CLC Members **Birthday** and **Anniversaries**



Others looking for help!

- ✦ **Fellowship Deacon needs volunteers** to help make the events happen. Contact Pam Clark if you can help in any capacity. 203-271-2640 or email AClark2snet.net
- ✦ **Sunday School Teachers Needed**—Prayerfully consider serving our congregations children by volunteering to teach them a few Sunday mornings during the year. See Pastor Rowold, Tricia Rowold or Craig Wilson.
- ✦ **Ushers are needed** to work both services. Contact Tim Weiland kweiland3@sbcglobal.net



NEED TO GET INFORMATION TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION?

Just slip your information or a note into one of the folders on the hallway table outside the church office. Folders have been created for each of the council members, Beth Soulier (the editor of this newsletter) and a few others, and placed outside the office. We have found that this is a great way to distribute information within the congregation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...



Sunday School lessons are continuing virtually by Zoom and we are preparing more lesson kits to go home to our Sunday School families. The lesson kits will be available for pick up during the open office hours on Thursdays, February 4 and February 11, and on Sunday, February 7, after the services. The lesson kits will be for the classes from February 14 through June 13, (unless we are able to return to in person classes before then). They will contain a cover letter with the current schedule for our virtual Sunday School lessons and any necessary leaflets/worksheets/craft pages for the lessons. While it is our hope to be able to return to in-person lessons before this school year is over, the lesson kits are being prepared in case we are staying remote through the Spring. This is the last remote bag to be picked up for Sunday School this year. If you are unable to pick up the remote bag(s) for your child(ren), please reach out to the church office and we will make arrangements to get it to you.



We are currently in need of few more Sunday School teachers to help teach/lead our Jr. High and High School students. If you feel your skill set is more in teaching younger kids, please still reach out to Tricia Rowold; we can always use more team members there as well.

Tricia Rowold—Sunday School Program Superintendent

NEWS FROM OUR LITTLE CHERUBS...

I come to you with a heavy heart as I write this months Heavenly Herald article for Little Cherubs! We are all devastated at the loss of Miss Martha. It is just not fair. She was so loved and she so loved our Cherubs. The comfort in it all is that she is with her husband Doug, Jesus, and the other dear loved ones that have gone before her. The children are adjusting and, every once in a while, they bring her name up but are reassured that she is with Jesus walking easily again with out any pain. We were fortunate to acquire two substitutes Beth Rock (a former parent) and Cindy's friend, Jen Campanelli.

We started off the new month with making snowflakes and putting glitter on them (Miss Martha's favorite). They are hung on the windows around the classroom. Of course, the story "A Snowy Day" was read by our substitute, Beth Rock. The children just love having her in class and so do we.

The children made a snow globe out of paper. They turned out great. The story that went with it was "Stronger In The Woods". The children had to take 3 circles and glue them onto paper to make their own snowman. They got to decorate them with gems, ribbon, arms and so much more. The children played snowflake math.



Matching Mittens, finding a pair of 2 that matched, were glued to a clothes line. "The Mitten" was read along with the giant mitten game on the rug. The children kept asking Miss Cindy if they can "do it again".

Art was really cool; it was open-ended. The children put glue on a thick white piece of paper, then they sprinkled salt over the glue and water colored the glue. The story that we read was "Polar Bear Polar Bear".

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day has come and gone. We made a circle of friends pasted on a red paper heart. We gently told them about Martin Luther King, Jr..

A new week with much to share: We started out reading "We can feed the Birds!" The children glued birds next to a paper bird feeder with bird seed glued on as well; they also made cheerio bird feeders, salt dough birds and binoculars made out of toilet paper rolls. The homemade bird feeders had bird seed on it and the children had clay and shaped it into a bird. They decorated it with all kinds of trinkets. On another table, they had a bird feeder with toy baby birds and a tray filled with what looked like a nest with plastic bird eggs to hide. The story that was shared with the theme was "A Bird in the Tree", "Feathers for Lunch" and "Owl Babies".

We ended the month with dino rubbing, surprise dino eggs, shape a saurus and baking soda dino eggs. The stories that were read were "I am A Dinosaur", "Dinosaur Dinosaur", "Danny and the Dinosaurs", "David Dreamin of Dinosaurs" and "Bones, Bones, Dinosaur bones". Bible lessons for the month of January were "Simeon & Anna", "Jesus at the Temple", "Jesus chooses friends", "Jesus heals a boy" and John the Baptist".

The alphabet consisted of O, P, Q, R, and S. Numbers consisted of writing 1-10.

I would like to end by saying a BIG THANK YOU to all who gave us such generous Christmas Gifts. We appreciate it more than you can imagine.

God Bless to All,
JoAnn and Cindy



CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS AT CLC!...



The one good side to Sunday School meeting virtually is you can log onto your computer, phone or tablet from anywhere in the world. (Yes, I added college Students too.) You do not have to travel or attend in person right now to hear God's Word and help your fellow students. Help shape **your** Sunday School experience. Sunday School is not just for little kids, parents and grandparents! **You** can join the adult Bible Study or start your own. It does not have to be the same lessons that the younger students are doing.

What's on your mind? What does Scripture have to say about it? I know high school and college can be a busy stressful time, even without a global pandemic in the mix; so lean on the Lord, stay in **His** Word and come together to support each other. We can arrange for it to be 2 large groups – one for college and one for high school – or several smaller groups. A larger group would need to meet at a different time or day so we can use the church's Zoom account. With small groups, the Sunday School teachers can use our free Zoom accounts on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month during the Christian Education hour, or even perhaps at some other time.

A link for an interest meeting will be sent out to each household with high school or college age students for parents to share with their youth so we can find out how many are interested and what time(s) we need a leader/host for the Zoom meetings. Parents, I know college age students are used to receiving their own communications, but please look for the email in your inbox to share with them, as it is likely your email we have on file. If you do not receive an email, it means we do not have an email contact for your household; if you don't get an email, and you are interested in participating, please reach out to the church office to be added to the list.



PLEDGE PACKETS FOR 2021...

Pledge Sunday for 2021 is here. Please assist CLC in planning and meeting our financial obligations by returning your pledge card to the church as soon as possible. Thank you!

NEWS FROM THE WORSHIP DEACON...



You are cordially invited to be a:

- † **Reader**
- † **Usher**
- † **Greeter**
- † **Singer or Ringer**
- † **Altar Guild**

Our weekly services don't just happen.

*******Additional ushers are needed at this time! Please contact Tim*******

For a typical four Sunday month, there can be at least 70 "periods of service" when members usher, acolyte, read lessons, greet other members before service, and prepare the altar. (And this does not count the choir's musical offerings that make our worship special).

Thank you in advance!
R Tim Weiland, your CLC Worship Deacon

NEWS FROM OUR YOUTH DEACON...

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as Youth Deacon. I am still learning the ropes and looking forward to working with our children and families to facilitate their spiritual growth, fellowship and Christian service. I greatly appreciate those who have already indicated interest in helping out. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering or with any suggestions. I pray that 2021 will bring opportunities to gather in person soon!

If you have any questions, suggestions or just want to talk feel free to reach out to me at (lisarmuller@gmail.com) or 203 768-8421

Lisa Muller
Youth Deacon



Lisa and her beautiful Family.
Husband Julian, Max, Alex
and Grace

SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANCE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED ...

A hearing assistance system (Williams Sound Corporation) and four receivers have been donated to CLC. A receiver (hearing aid) may be obtained from any usher. Please feel free to ask for one and make sure you return to an usher at the end of the service so it can be returned to its proper storage place for use at another time.



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY AT CLC...

On Sunday, February 7th, millions of Americans will tune into the Super Bowl football game. This year especially, there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a warm meal. Please join young people around the country as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the Souper Bowl of Caring. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others. Drop a monetary donation and/or a soup donation as you leave worship on February 7th or on Thursday February 4th between 10:00 AM and Noon during open office hours. CLC's donations will go to Cheshire Community Food Pantry.



Thank you,
Vicki DePaolo, Social Welfare Deacon—Elect



February 2, 2021

February 2, 2021

NEWS FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY...

Reminders from Your Friendly Neighborhood Financial Secretary:

- ✦ If you have Pledge envelopes PLEASE use them, having to lookup members envelope numbers can lead to human error.
- ✦ Please remember to mark on the outside of your offering envelopes with the exact amount of money enclosed. This is a very important check and balance for us.
- ✦ If you've been absent for some time and want to bring your offerings up to date, kindly use ONE rather than MANY envelopes - since the fewer envelopes our financial assistants must handle, the lighter their workload.
- ✦ PLEASE do not post-date checks.
- ✦ PLEASE use black or blue ink for your checks. Our friendly bank tellers thank you.



The Financial Secretary is always in need of volunteers to aid in counting church offerings after Sunday services or Monday night, based on volunteer preference (and appropriate to current COVID-19 physical distancing requirements) If you are available 1 or 2 months per year for approximately one hour a week, please contact Guy Mason, our Financial Secretary.

The Financial Secretary has a new church e-mail address if you wish to volunteer or have a question email me.

Guy Mason—Financial Secretary

WE SUPPORT HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER...



Volunteers are needed to deliver baby items to Hope Pregnancy Center, located next to the Library in Cheshire. If you would like to help once or twice a year, please sign up on the bulletin board.

We donate these items to the local organization “Hope for Life”, d.b.a. Hope Pregnancy Center. They are located at 110 Main Street, Cheshire, in a facility provided by Christ Community Church. They will gratefully accept infant clothing and unused nursery equipment. For further information, see the poster hung above the bassinet.

THIS MONTH IN OUR HISTORY!...

A monthly glimpse of the history of your Cheshire Lutheran Church:

February

February 18, 1546	Martin Lutheran dies at the age of 66
February 2, 1958	First Holy Communion Service celebrated under parish sponsorship
February 16, 1967	Congregant Pfc Gary Richards dies in Vietnam (town of Cheshire's first casualty)
February 4, 1968	Dedication of Bell Tower, in memory of CLC member Pfc Gary Richards, the first Cheshire soldier to be killed in the Vietnam War
February 25, 2018	Rev. Rowold's installation service at CLC
February 28, 2018	Rev. Rowold's conducted first Lenten Wednesday evening Bible Study and Service.



THANK YOU LETTER FROM DISTRICT PRESIDENT YEADON...

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT
400 Wilbraham Road
Springfield, MA 01109-2723
(413) 783-0131 FAX (413) 783-0909
www.ned-lcms.org
Email:tyeadon@ned-lcms.org
Office of the President

October 20, 2020

Dear Saints of Cheshire Lutheran Church,

I wishes to write to you to personally thank you for the kind gift you made to the District. I know that it was made in honor of Pastor Nuechterlein's installation and the 60th anniversary of the congregation. I too add my thanks to the Lord above for both of those great events you celebrated. It was furthermore an honor for me to be present with all of you for the celebration and to stand with my colleagues in ministry First Vice-President Rev. Robert Beinke and Rev. William Meyer. To be with them both and also your own Pastor Rowold and to be with all of you was a privilege and I thank Jesus for it all.

We will use your gift as you intended and focus on the outreach of the Gospel in our New England. How wonderful to have turned your celebration of what the Lord has done among you into the blessings you have made possible to those throughout our New England States. It is a credit to the work and inspiration of God the Holy Spirit among you! I pray the Lord makes us as a District worthy of your trust.

If it is possible please share this letter of thanks with Pastors Rowold and Nuechterlein and as far as is able with the saints of Cheshire Lutheran Church. We are grateful to the Lord – I am personally grateful to the Lord – for all of you.

Blessings upon you and, once more, gratitude
for all you are in Jesus, and for what you have done,

Rev. Timothy R. Yeadon, President
New England District
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

NEWS FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP DEACON...



Now that the 2021 pledge drive is behind us, I would like to share a thought as I reflect upon the process. One question – to whom is a Stewardship Deacon speaking? Let me explain. The “job” requires communicating and messaging... but there are different messages that really need to be tailored to fit folk’s individual circumstances.

Regarding financial contributions, there are several key messages. For those who choose to give on a pledged basis, the message is one of appreciation and thanks. For those who choose not to give on a pledged basis, but still contribute, the message – in addition to appreciation and thanks – is to educate and inform on the value of pledging. And for those that have the means but do not choose to contribute, the message is one of encouragement to give prayerful consideration to do so, and to educate and inform on the value of giving.

Similarly, we have many folks that give tirelessly of their time and talent. You may have heard me say that we are “richly blessed” – the message to these folks is again one of appreciation and thanks! And we had many folks during our recent pledge drive indicate an interest / willingness to get involved in (a) new area(s), so again the message is of appreciation and thanks. And for those that have God-given gifts but are not (yet) engaged, the messaging will focus on invitations to do so.

So, all that said, to whom is a Stewardship Deacon speaking? Essentially, everyone!

Thank you,
Rob DeLaubell
Stewardship Deacon



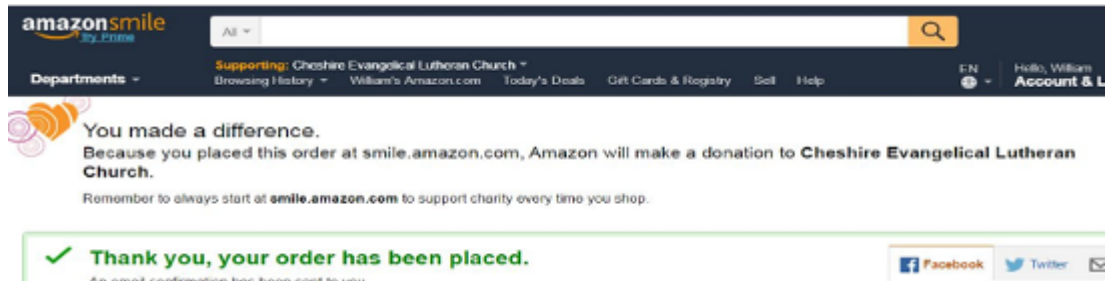
YOU SHOP. AMAZON GIVES...

If you happen to be an Amazon™ on-line shopper, Cheshire Lutheran Church is now a registered non-profit organization under the “Amazon Smile”™ program. So, whenever you shop on Amazon, instead go to www.smile.amazon.com, then log in, using your same username and password as you normally would on the traditional Amazon site. You will be asked to select a charity by browsing the list of registered organizations and selecting Cheshire Lutheran Church. Amazon Smile will donate .5% (that is .005) of the amount you purchase to CLC.

Here is a sample of the screen that you will see after completing a purchase:



You Shop. Amazon Gives



NEW ON OUR WEBSITE... WWW.CHESHIRELUTHERAN.ORG

The following has been recently added to our Website:

- ✦ Wonderful aerial drone video put to music of our beautiful church grounds
- ✦ Live streaming and video recordings of Sunday Services during COVID-19 restrictions
- ✦ Service video with enhanced music recordings—YouTube sometimes does not broadcast the best sounding audio.
- ✦ Audio recordings of Anthems sung by Soloists and Special Ensembles this Summer
- ✦ Current and Past Heavenly Heralds
- ✦ Video recordings from many past events
- ✦ Audio and Video recordings of Pastors Sermons and other events
- ✦ Pictures, pictures, pictures and more pictures from all our past events other miscellaneous photos taken in and around the Church by Tim Weiland
- ✦ Much, much more...



CLC WELLNESS & SAFETY COMMITTEE NEWS...

Information from Maura Esposito, Director of Chesprocott on *COVID-19 Vaccines*:

For the many friends and family members who are helping set up their parent or grandparent into the Covid19 VAMS (Vaccine Administration Management System) please know the following:

1. Please make sure they know the email account you used to set up their appointment
2. You had to create a password in VAMS. Make sure your elder knows this password
3. 24 hours prior to the appointment an email from VAMS is sent to the email address you are using for your elder
4. This email must be opened and you must click on the BLUE link. Please work with your elder to answer these questions
5. Many elders are coming to clinic confused because all these steps have not been done
6. Please make sure they come to the clinic with the email address you used, their VAMS password, and a way an assistant can call you if we encounter a problem

I want to thank all of you who are managing this system for our mothers, fathers, grandparents. In the age of technology, this can cause frustration and anxiety. We have assistants to help your elders. But please help us by make sure all the steps of the process are complete and they come prepared.

WINTER SAFETY TIPS:

Having snow and ice safety controls in place is important in preventing slip and fall accidents. Consider pre-application of ice melt before a storm, store ice-melt in an easy to reach location, conduct periodic inspections of your property for needed re-applications of ice melt, give attention to areas that are in the sun early in the day and in shadow later in the day, a puddle in the morning sun will become a sheet of ice in the afternoon.

IMPORTANT--use de-icing products as directed.

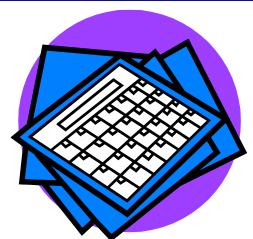
CLC Wellness & Safety Committee

Cheshire Lutheran Church



CLC CALENDARS FOR 2021...

2021 Calendars are coming. The calendars are a gift to our congregation compliments of the Alderson/Slater Funeral Home. You are welcome to pick up a copy from our hallway counter or narthex table as soon as they arrive. Watch for the notice when they get here.



CLC SAYS GOODBYE TO A CHERISHED FRIEND...

Sunrise December 12, 1944 ~ Sunset December 31, 2020

Our beloved sister, Martha (Somers) Henderson, was called home to our Lord on December 31, 2020. A Celebration of Life Service will be held in the Spring of 2021 at the Cheshire Lutheran Church.

Martha was the widow of Douglas M. Henderson and celebrated 40 wonderful years of marriage just prior to his death in 2006.

Martha was a longtime member of the Junior League of Greater Waterbury, an adjunct professor at Naugatuck Valley Community College and an active member of the Cheshire Lutheran Church. At the time of her death she was still teaching at our Little Cherubs Preschool. She loved teaching and spending time with the children. She also enjoyed many years playing in our bell choir.

None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. (Rom. 14:7-8)

May God's peace and consolation bring comfort to the Henderson family.

Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Matthew 25:21



Martha Henderson will be missed by all those that knew her. Members of CLC have started a "Martha Fund", collecting donations in her memory and plans are in place to purchase something that will formally memorialize her showing CLCs appreciation for all she has done for our Congregation. If anyone is interested in contributing, please give your donation to Guy Mason our Financial Secretary. Make sure you insert your donation into an envelope and indicate its for Martha Henderson Memorial. Guy will be keeping track of all donations and after we meet with Martha's family we will decide how best to Celebrate her life with a memorial.



HOW TO REACH PASTOR IN AN EMERGENCY...

If there is no answer in the Church Office, Pastor Rowold may be reached on his cell phone listed in our church directory.

COLUMBARIUM & MEMORIAL GARDEN NEWS...

Upkeep of the area by committee members is ongoing.

The Columbarium Committee has been working to simplify the forms used to purchase a Subscription for an Inurement and other forms.

For more information, grab a pamphlet and/or contact any member of the Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee.

Don Drust

Walt Gancarz

John Mulvaney

Vicki DePaolo

Linda Gancarz

Randy Raddatz

Pat DiDomizio

Margie Mertz

Beth Soulier

Judy DiDomizio

Priscilla Mulvaney

Tim Weiland



Letter From Martha Henderson's Family

From: Carol Santoro (office@cheshirelutheran.org)

To: office@cheshirelutheran.org

Date: Monday, January 4, 2021, 11:39 AM EST

Dear Cheshire Lutheran Family and friends,

Thank you so very much for all the love and support, well wishes and kindness that you have shown to our mother over the years and especially in the last week. Martha passed with us by her side at St. Mary's Hospital on **December the 31st** after suffering from an unrecoverable stroke on the 25th. She was not a victim of COVID-19 directly, but immobility and physical isolation took its toll on her this last year. Her greatest joy beyond her grandchildren was the time she spent with you, her church family, playing in the bell choir, and at Little Cherubs preschool with the children. Over the years you were there for it all, you brought her comfort as she grieved the loss of her husband and lifelong love Doug as well as celebrated with her all the accomplishments of her grandchildren. Her life was more full because of you. Thank you so much for making her feel loved and know that she loved you in return. She is in a better place. She is with God and Doug and she will be deeply missed. We are grateful for you all and thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Sincerely,

The Henderson Family



THE HYMNALS HAVE RETURNED FOR SUNDAY SERVICES...



On the last Sunday in December, we resumed the routine use of our hymnals during our worship services. For those who choose to use them, the hymnals are available from a media cart in the Narthex. You'll pick one up from the top shelf on the way into the service (being careful to touch only the hymnal you will be using) and then return it to the bottom shelf of the cart at the end of the service. There are separate carts for the 8 and 10:30 services and the hymnals sit untouched until the following Sunday. (By letting our hymnals sit for a week, that should provide more than sufficient time for any germs or virus that could possibly be on them to die and to remove the risk of touch-transmission.)

Printed copies of the service are still available for people to pick up during open office hours on Thursdays and they will continue to be an option on Sunday mornings for those who decide not to use the hymnals for any reason. If you are worshipping from home for the foreseeable future and would like to borrow a copy of the hymnal from the Church or would like information on how to obtain your own personal copy, please contact Pastor Rowold at the Church office.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL...

2021 OFFICERS AND DEACONS
JANUARY 10, 2021



Parish President	Steve Feero	Evangelism	Marilyn Miller
Vice President	Bill Soulier	Fellowship	Pam Clark
Recording Secretary	Terri Daly	House and Grounds	Andy Clark
Financial Secretary	Guy Mason	Social Welfare	Vicki DePaolo
Treasurer	Bill Sherman	Stewardship	Rob DeLaubell
Christian Education	Craig Wilson	Worship	Tim Weiland
Christian Growth Fund	David Schrumm	Youth	Lisa Muller



Our Sincere Thanks to Karen Smith, Alan Santoro, Alan Spose, Karen Weiland and Dorothy Dierolf for their faithful service to the Council. Well done, good and faithful servants! A special thanks to Nancy Schweizer who will continue in the role of assistant to the Treasurer.

May God Bless their important works! We are very grateful for their wonderful talents and dedication!

CHESHIRE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS HELP...

The Cheshire Community Food Pantry needs our help more than ever. Covid-19 has decreased contributions, children are home and people out of work. There are no Sunday donations to the Pantry. We can directly drop off items at the Pantry or send a cash for them to purchase what they need most. **THEY NEED OUR HELP!**

The Cheshire Community Food Pantry is located at:

175 Sandbank Rd
Cheshire Ct 06410

Send Checks to:

Cheshire Community Food Pantry PO BOX 457

or

you can donate \$\$ to them online at <https://www.cheshirefoodpantry.org/>

Call for drop off times: 203-699-9226

"Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' " John 21:15b

In January, we donated 173 pounds of groceries and paper goods to the Cheshire Community Food Pantry. During these unprecedented times, there is a dire need for assistance. The Cheshire Community Food Pantry appreciates our kindness.



CLC January's donations

Thank you for your continued support—Vicki DePaolo, Social Welfare Deacon

FEBRUARY 17TH IS..ASH WEDNESDAY!

Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. We will have a service at 7:30 PM to begin this penitential season. Once again ashes will be offered to all who would like to receive them as part of their Lenten discipline.

Throughout the season of Lent we will continue to offer worship services on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM until Holy Week.





Check out our new Roof on the East side



NEWS FROM OUR EVANGELISM DEACON...

New Evangelism Committee Feature Announcement

The Evangelism Committee is excited to announce a new feature we are adding to the Heavenly Herald. Each month we will feature a different member (or member couple) of our congregation in an effort to bring us closer. All our members have their own unique story, but with the regular weekly conversations we may have at the church, we don't truly get to know one another. The Evangelism Committee will select a member (or a husband and wife member couple) each month and will call to ask them a short series of "get to know you" questions. There is no obligation if you are selected and choose not to participate, but we really hope many of you are willing to share your stories. Stay tuned next month to meet our featured member(s)!

Marilyn Miller—Evangelism Deacon & Evangelism Committee

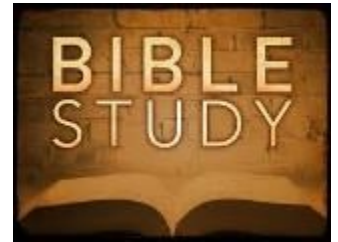


Bible Studies at CLC

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES...

Sunday morning Bible study meets on the Second and Fourth Sundays of the month at 9:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall for everyone comfortable meeting in person (standard Covid precautions of 6 feet of distance and wearing masks apply) and is available via Zoom for anyone not attending in person. The Zoom link is sent out via a mass email each week. We are currently working our way through a multi-part study that looks at the religion of Islam. Join us on the Second and Fourth Sundays at 9:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall or on Zoom.

Our Wednesday afternoon study of the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke meets Wednesdays at 1:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall for those interested in meeting in person (the usual Covid precautions will apply) and is available by Zoom for those who desire. The Zoom link is sent out via a mass email each week. Join us Wednesdays at 1:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall or on Zoom.



CLC HELPING HANDS...

“Helping Hands” of CLC is designed to match members’ talents and time availability with those in need within our church family. In the past, this has formally included meal preparation and transportation needs and occasional visitation. Informally, there is a lot of helping “behind the scenes” from women and men in the congregation who see a need and respond to it. It is likely there are others who have needs and those who would be inclined to help, but are unaware of the needs. Helping Hands is organized to meet the needs of both groups, men and women, singles and families.

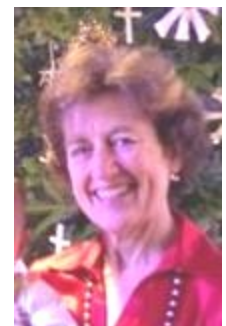
Assistance During COVID-19:

Please consider requesting assistance such as meals, transportation, occasional errands, minor household repairs, and visitors. Please know that Helping Hands may be able to help during this *Coronavirus* quarantine chapter in our lives. If you are in need of groceries or other essential items, or just want a daily or occasional phone call, please contact Sally at the number below.

Those able to offer occasional time and your talents, please sign up on the bulletin board, indicating your “offering”.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration. Please contact the church office (203-272-5106) or me to request assistance or for any concerns or questions. Please note that all information will be confidential.

Sally Schrumm, Chairman



PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THIS NEWSLETTER A SUCCESS!! (March 2021 Articles are Due!)

Please electronically submit ALL articles and information to Beth Soulier (soulierbeth@sbcglobal.net) by Friday, **February 19th**, or earlier! Place all non-electronic articles and information you would like printed into the HH in Beth's lateral file folder on the hallway table.

Thank You!



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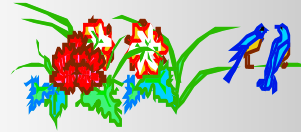
- 1 Larry Fiedler
- 7 Aimee Shepard
Meredith Natzel
- 10 Christopher Shepard
Judi-Lynn Reidinger
- 11 Kiley Soulier
- 13 Regina Lynch
- 16 Jim Mertz
Priscilla Mulvaney
- 20 Glenn Myers
- 23 Norma Baker
- 24 Jeanette Bothroyd
Connor Collins
Bill Hillis
- 25 Gloria Nuechterlein
- 26 James Donewald
- 28 Vicki DePaolo



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

February 2021

Somebody needs to get married in February!



Happy Birthday!



Cheshire Lutheran Church
660 West Main St
Cheshire CT 06410

