CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Heavenly Herald

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Pastor's Message

"[The disciples said,] 'Send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' But Jesus said, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' ... taking the five loaves and the two fish, [Jesus] looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over." Matthew 14:15b-17, 19b-20 (ESV)

The Feeding of the 5,000 is arguably one of Jesus' most loved and best-known miracles. Using only 5 loaves and 2 small fish from a young boy's lunchbox (John 6:9), Jesus feeds more than 5,000 people. (We're told it was 5,000 men, plus women and children, so that's anywhere from 5 to 15 or even 20 thousand.) Not only that, but there were 12 baskets full of leftovers after everyone ate until they couldn't eat any more. It's truly an amazing miracle that defies any attempt to find a human explanation that could explain it away.

It seems amazing to us, but the situation must have been terrifying for the disciples; there's a crowd of thousands, and you're expected to find a way to feed them all. Or how about the little boy? There, in the midst of the hungry crowd, there you are with 5 barley loaves – each probably about the size of a kaiser roll – and two little fish. The food would have been just enough for him, IF he wasn't very hungry; there isn't even enough there to satisfy two people, let alone thousands. People looking to you, expecting you to do something, when what you have doesn't seem anywhere near enough for the task.

It can be an overwhelming, even terrifying, experience to be in that situation – someone asking you to help when you feel you just aren't able, just don't have what it takes. That's often how people feel when they are approached to

help at Church. Maybe you've been asked to teach Sunday School, or lend a hand with the live stream equipment, or you've been approached to take a position on the Church Council. It's common to feel unprepared or ill equipped when someone approaches you, seemingly out of the blue, and asks you to be involved in ways like these. You may even feel overwhelmed and insufficient for the task. Many folks politely decline when they are approached, explaining their response by saying that they don't have the gifts, it's not something for which they have the skills, or that they just simply are not able.

As Jesus and His disciples stood before the crowd of thousands, the disciples wanted to politely say "No thank you" to Jesus' call to feed the multitudes. "Send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves" they said (Matt. 14:15). "Two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be enough for each of them to get a little" they replied (John 6:7). But Jesus wasn't having any of their excuses, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat" (Matt. 14:16).

All they could come up with was the food brought by the little boy – 5 barley loaves and two small fish – certainly not enough to meet the need they were facing; they didn't feel they were up to the task, it was too much for them.

When they told Jesus what they had, He responded "Bring them here to me." In Jesus' hands that small bit of food was more than enough to feed the multitudes. They didn't just get a morsel or a nibble or a bite; they ate until they were full and couldn't eat any more. They were satisfied and there were twelve baskets full of what was leftover.

God has a habit of calling people who don't feel up to the task, or using things that seem

small and insufficient. When God called to Moses out of the burning bush, he tried to

(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



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

CHURCH

ITTLE CHERUBS

<u>Church Staff</u>

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

Brenna Steczkowski-Office Manager

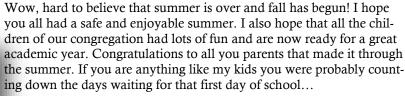
Martha Medford-Organist & Choir Director

Jeff Mann-Parish President

Beth Soulier-Editor

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

AND THE CHURCH COUNCIL Greetings All,



It's the end of an era...As you read this article, Carol Santoro is now enjoying her well deserved and long awaited RETIREMENT. Please join me in congratulating Carol and thanking her for 27 years of dedicated service to CLC and hundreds of members and guests, past and present. Carol has so much institutional knowledge of CLC and our congregational culture that it is easy to take her contribution for granted. As Parish President, I can assure you that things don't just happen week in and week out all by themselves; Carol makes sure they happen!

CLC will honor Carol's nearly three decades of service with a celebration in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 10th, following the 10:30 service. Please mark this occasion on your calendars and plan to attend. The good news is that, although she is retiring, Carol and Alan will still be local and attending CLC – she'll just be able to relax a bit and enjoy all that CLC has to offer.

I am pleased to announce that Brenna Steczkowski has been hired as our new office administrator. Brenna is well qualified for this position and brings a wealth of relevant experience. Brenna trained with Carol for about 2 ½ weeks and is now working on her own. Please stop in to say hello and introduce yourself if you happen to be in the area during the daytime Mon-Thurs. Brenna is no stranger to CLC as her daughter, MaryJane, attended our Little Cherubs Preschool. Welcome Brenna — we are glad to have you!

VOTERS – please note that our September meeting has been rescheduled to Sunday, October 1st, immediately after the 10:30 Communion service. Attendance at this meeting is important, as we will be presenting our initial draft of the 2024 Mission Plan.

The Council will be forming our Nominating Committee at our September meeting. Please consider offering your time and talent by serving on your CLC Council. Looking ahead, it seems that all officers and deacons will be eligible to serve an additional term if they so desire. Officers serve in one year terms for a maximum of six consecutive years. Deacons serve three year terms for a maximum of two terms, or six consecutive years. Our Constitution and Bylaws limit service in any combination of Officer or Deacon Positions to a maximum of six consecutive years.

Our next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 5th, and the next meeting of our Voters Assembly is scheduled for Sunday, October 1st at 11:30 (or after conclusion of the 10:30 service).

Yours in Christ, Jeff Mann CLC Parish President



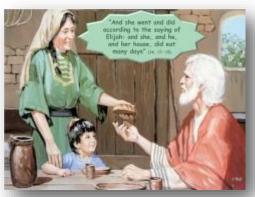
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Please stop in to say hello and introduce yourself if you happen to be in the area during the daytime Mon-Fri. (Continued from page 1)

decline, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt" (Ex. 3:11)? When Elijah asked the Widow of Zarephath for some bread, she attempted to say no, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die" (1 Kings 17:12). But God wouldn't let them make excuses.

To the Widow of Zarephath God said, "Do not fear; ... For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth'" (1 Kings 17:13–14). And that's exactly what happened. The woman and her son and Elijah all had enough to eat; the flour and the oil lasted long after they should have run out. God took what seemed like it wasn't enough, and used it to provide abundantly.



The Lord replied to Moses, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain" (Ex. 3:12). Sure enough, God was with Moses and equipped him for the task ahead; God's people did come out of Egypt, and they worshipped Him on that mountain. Moses went on to faithfully lead God's people for over 40 years and brought them to the Promised Land.

It doesn't matter if it's 5 loaves and two small fish, a little bit of flour and a small amount of oil, or a person who doesn't feel they have the gifts/talents/abilities for the task at hand. God takes something that seems to us to be insufficient for the task, and – in God's hands – it fills the need more than abundantly. That's the miraculous power of God. He takes our gifts, as humble as they may seem to us, and He does amazing things with them.

Standing before the multitude and being expected to feed the crowds must have felt overwhelming, both for the disciples and for that little boy. What they had to meet the need seemed like it wasn't enough. Still Jesus called "Bring them here to me" and everyone ate until they were satisfied, with twelve baskets full of leftovers. You may feel overwhelmed when you are asked to help here at Church. You may even feel like you don't have what it takes, but God still calls you to the task. In His hands and with His help, God will use each of us to do His work abundantly.

When you are approached to help here at CLC, even if you don't feel up to the task, focus on the one who is calling you to serve and the one who will help you to accomplish His work – Jesus Christ.

In Him, Pastor David Rowold

CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN...

Confirmation Class for the current group of students will begin its Second (and final) Year on Sunday, September 17; class will meet on Sunday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. during the School Year. We've got a lot of work ahead of us before we make it to Confirmation Sunday. The Rite of Confirmation is currently scheduled to take place during the 10:30 a.m. service on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024.



UPDATED PARISH FAMILY REGISTER—DIRECTORY...

A NEW paper copy of the directory is on the hallway counter for anyone who needs it. Please feel free to take this updated copy so you can have contact information of our Church Family members.



Service Reminder!

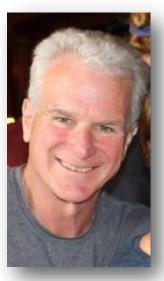
We will resume our 2 Service Sunday Schedule on Sunday, September 10th.

- **Sunday Worship Services** at 8:00 and 10:30 AM
- **Sunday School** will be held at 9:10 AM in their respective classrooms starting September 10
- **Adult Sunday School/Bible Study** at 9:10 AM in the Library starting September 10
- **Fellowship/Coffee Hour** between Services in the Fellowship Hall starting September 17



FALL SERVICE SCHEDULE...

Beginning Sunday, September 10, 2023, we will be returning to our School-year schedule of two services on Sunday morning at 8 AM and 10:30 AM. The 8 AM service will continue to be streamed out live via YouTube for anyone who is unable to join us in person for the service and it will be available for viewing via the direct link sent out in the weekly email from the Church office.



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.

Alan Santoro—Financial Secretary

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL UPDATE...

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped made VBS possible!

This year VBS was all about letting Jesus' light shine. The theme was Stellar "Shine Jesus' Light." The dates were June 26-30, 2023. The student's day ran from 9-Noon. We had 17 teen volunteers and more than 20 adult volunteers help Shine Jesus' Light to others in our community with this fun space-themed VBS.



The lessons started with Christmas, then we met Zacchaeus, saw Jesus enter Jerusalem to shouts of Hosanna, learned how He cared for His mother at His crucifixion, and learned from Philip to Shine Jesus' light to help others.

We had 68 registered students, 50 in K-6 and 18 in the Preschool area. We had several returning volunteers and new volunteers. Our teen volunteers were an amazing group of youth not only from CLC, but from the community; they were both people who have had a connection to VBS as students in the past and have returned as helpers for a few years now, and also some friends of Sarah, who came out to help us who had no previous connection to the program.

Over all, it was one Stellar week where we got to shine Jesus' light to many. When it was all over, the teen volunteers received letters through the mail with their service hours listed in them and we even got to help another church Shine Jesus' Light.

Christ Lutheran Church in Niantic was able to use some of our decorations for their VBS in August.

Save the dates for next year's VBS: July 8-12, 2024.

Tricia Rowold Sunday School Superintendent

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 it's proper storage place for use at another time.



News From Our Little Cherubs...

2023—2024 Registration

Little Cherubs is still taking registration for the 2023—2024 school year. If you, or someone you know, have a child who is preschool eligible, please call the Church or Preschool office for more information. A registration packet may also be picked up from the counter outside the Church Office!



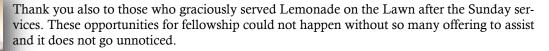


God Bless to All, JoAnn

NEWS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP DEACON...

Summer:

Thank you to Karen Weiland for organizing the Lunch on the Lawn during the summer months. It was well attended and is always a blessing to come together and share a meal.



Autumn:

As Autumn approaches, the change of seasons brings new opportunities for fellowship at CLC. Please join us for a cup of coffee, tea or juice and a small bite to eat in the Fellowship Hall following the 8 AM Sunday worship services, beginning September 10th. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board if you would like to choose a date to set up and clean up. If you are not interested in baking, fear not! I know several people who enjoy baking and can easily have fresh baked items on hand. You just need to set up the coffee, tea, and juice-all provided for you-and clean up at 9:30.

The hay ride and apple picking event was great fun last year. If you cannot do both, do not let that stop you! You can be a part of one or both activities. This event will be held at Blue Hills Orchard in Wallingford on Sunday, October 1st. We will gather for the hay ride first at 2:00. The hay ride is about an hour long and then we pick apples. It would be great to fill the wagon with CLC members enjoying the beautiful scenery the Lord has provided!

Another fabulous occasion to enjoy fellowship is around the corner. A Progressive Social is in the works! This event is always popular. It includes gathering in the homes of several members for appetizers and moving to 2 different houses and then back to CLC for dessert. We will need volunteers to host and lots of members to enjoy a night out. Look for information in the Sunday bulletins, on the bulletin board and in October's Heavenly Herald. One possible date is Saturday, November 4th. For more information or if you are interested in assisting with this event, please see Pam or Andy Clark.

Pam Clark Fellowship Deacon



CELEBRATION TO HONOR CAROL SANTORO...

As many are now aware, Carol Santoro's role as CLC administrator has come to an end. Carol has been a valuable part of CLC for 27 years and we wish her well as she spends her free time enjoying her grandchildren and other interests. I take solace in that she will still be worshipping with us and will, of course, always be part of the CLC family! On Sunday, September 10th, following the 10:30 service, I invite all members to join us in thanking Carol for her dedication and service. We will have appetizers, a cake, and a short presentation in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate the blessing she has been to CLC.

Carol is leaving us in the capable hands of Brenna Steckowski. I look forward to getting to know her and working with her. Welcome to the CLC family Brenna!

NEWS FROM OUR EVANGELISM DEACON...

Continuing Acts of Kindness: Writing Cards and Interviews:

Greeting Cards:

Throughout the summer months, we continued our heartwarming tradition of writing cards to our fellow congregation members. These tokens of care and encouragement bring our community closer together and remind us of the importance of connection.

Getting To Know Our Members Interviews:

Additionally, we're delighted to announce that we will be resuming our interview sessions from October until December

If any member feels called to participate in these interviews, please do not hesitate to reach out and let us know. Your stories and experiences are invaluable to us.

SEW INS and Heartfelt Quilt Presentations

Mark your calendars for some special dates of togetherness and outreach. Our SEW INS are scheduled for September 23, October 14, and November 11. These gatherings provide an opportunity for us to work on meaningful projects while enjoying each other's company.

On May 31 & July 22, we conducted moving presentations where we had the privilege of wrapping seven esteemed veterans in quilts. These quilts, woven with care and gratitude, symbolize our respect and appreciation for their service. The veterans honored were James, Joseph, Peter, Bill, Raymond, Fred, and Del.

Also, during the summer, at Goodwin Park, we presented quilts to veterans who spent eight weeks with PGA Hope, learning the game of golf. We wrapped the following: Eric, Duncan, Alex, Ross, Raymond, Salvatore, Michael, Chris Joe, Roberto, Ron, Mike, Richard, William & Donald.

On August 11, at Lyman Orchards, we celebrated with another group of veterans who completed eight weeks with PGA Hope. Melinda, Robyn, Cheryl, Charles, Geoffrey, Denis, Sue, Anne, Charles, Andreas, Lee, Douglas, Kevin, & Sheldon completed their golf lessons and we wrapped them in quilts, showing our gratitude and admiration. These are moments we will cherish, for it is a privilege to stand alongside those who have dedicated their lives to the service of our nation.

Let us remember the profound truth encapsulated in our motto: "Their service, our freedom." It is a sentiment that should forever be etched in our hearts and minds.

Upcoming Scholarship Committee Endeavor

Looking ahead, our Scholarship Committee is gearing up for an important endeavor. In October, we will be sending out letters for our fundraiser. This initiative aims to provide two scholarships of \$1000 each to our high school seniors within the congregation. We invite you all to consider contributing to this noble project, as it empowers our youth to pursue their dreams and academic aspirations.

A Grateful Acknowledgment

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers who generously offer their time and efforts to support our committees. Your commitment allows us to accomplish the wonderful initiatives that define our community. Without you, our achievements would not be possible.

May God's blessings be with you all, and may you have a wonderful day.

Warm regards, Marilyn Miller Evangelism Deacon





CLC CHOIR NEWS...

All Choirs will resume rehearsals in September. Please note:

- Rehearsals begin on September 6th
- All Choirs Picnic Wednesday September 13th
 - Please sign up for food item / Main course and drinks provided
- Bell Choir will perform on **September 25**th at both **Services**
- Parish Choir will perform on September 18th and October 2nd

CLC ALL CHOIRS REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE...

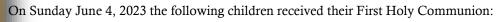
Date	Time	Event	Choir	
September 6 - Wednesday	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir	
All Choirs Rehearsal Resumes!	7:45 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir	
September 10 - Sunday	N. Cl.			
Sunday School Rally Day	No Choirs			
September 13 - Wednesday	All Choirs Picnic Set Up 5:30 PM—Picnic Begins 6:00 PM			
September 17 - Sunday	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir	
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir	
September 20 - Wednesday	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir	
	7:45 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir	
September 24 - Sunday	7:20 AM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir	
	8:00 AM	Performance	Bell Choir	
	10:30 AM	Performance	Bell Choir	
September 27 - Wednesday	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir	
	7:45 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir	
October 1 - Sunday	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir	
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir	



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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 1ST COMMUNION RECIPIENTS...



Derek Henderson Grace Muller Grace Wilde

We rejoice together as these youth mark this significant milestone in their personal and spiritual lives.

NEWS FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP DEACON...

Stewardship:

Our stewardship continues to be strong! Financially, thru July, we are meeting – and in fact, slightly exceeding - our work plan. And our engagement of time and talent continues to demonstrate our commitment to CLC's mission, and enriches our worship and fellowship. Thank you for all that you do!

Long-Term Planning:

The Long-Term Planning committee has the following updates:

- Look for a refreshed social media presence for CLC this fall on Facebook.
- We are considering one or more cottage meetings these are small group discussions to hear the "voice of the congregation", in terms of what's working well, and what are our areas of improvement. Please let me know if you are interested in attending.
- Our committee is considering additional events like the mandolin and guitar duo concert we had in the spring, which was open to the public. Let me know if you have any ideas!

If you are interested in the happenings of the LTP committee, or would like any more information, please feel free to reach out to any other member of the LTP committee: Karen Bailey, Andy Clark, Pat DiDomizio, Jeff Mann, Marilyn Miller, Pastor Rowold, Craig Wilson, or me.

Respectfully Submitted, Rob DeLaubell Stewardship Deacon





NEWS FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEACON...

Mothers Day Blanket Collection Update:

See Thank You card on the Bulletin Board from Matthew Stevens, Director of Congregational Campaigns



School Kit Update:



Relief for Human Need Worldwide

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our 2023 Orphan Grain Train School Kit project. Donations were collected through August 20th. We packed 60 school kits this year. and received \$125 in cash donations. This was delivered to the OGT warehouse in Terryville, CT on August 24th.

Thank you to Beth and Bill Soulier for obtaining a \$250 grant from Thrivent, the money was used to buy backpacks and school supplies.

Thank you to Trish and Sarah Rowold, Carol Santoro, and Karen Weiland who helped pack the kits.

Cheshire Food Pantry—Adopt a Shelf

The Cheshire Food Pantry still is requesting we supply liquid dish soap. Please continue to support our food pantry. All donations are needed.

Nancy Engelhart Social Welfare Deacon





SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...



Thank you to all who have signed up to teach. We can still use a couple more teachers. Rally Day is Sunday, September 10, 2023. We will have an all-ages event with food and activities.

This year we will be looking at Miracles that take place in both the Old and New Testament. We have 28 regular lessons scheduled, as well as rehearsal time for the Christmas Program. The Christmas Program this year is scheduled for December 17, 2023 during the 10:30 Service.



We have a new class this year led by Erica Bencivenga; it is a Toddler and parent class for children under age 4 to attend with their parents. We will also have a calendar for each Sunday School family with the lessons and other important Sunday School information on it. Please join us Sunday mornings at 9:10 for Opening in the Fellowship Hall and lessons in the classrooms and Nursery.

Our teachers this year are:

Toddler and Parent class: Erica Bencivenga

Pre-K age $4 - 1^{st}$ Grade: Pam Clark $2^{nd} - 5^{th}$ Grade: Lynn Balash

6th - 8th Grade: Susan Harris and Tricia Rowold Youth Bible Study: Andy Clark and Jonathan Schrum

Substitute: Terri Daly

Adult Bible Study: Pastor David Rowold Confirmation Class: Pastor David Rowold

Tricia Rowold Sunday School Superintendent

WELLNESS & SAFETY COMMITTEE NEWS...

With the start of the new School Year upon us and Cold & Flu season just around the corner, now is the time to prepare for the sniffles that inevitably seem to come in the Fall. Be sure to check the dates on any cough and cold medicine that you have. If it's expired, dispose of it; if you are all out of your preferred brand of "over the counter" medicines, consider picking some up now. The stores are better stocked right now than they will be when Cold & Flu seasons kicks into high gear. It's also not too early to be in touch with your doctor about scheduling your annual flu shot. With the Summer colds that have been floating around and the bump in Covid cases that also took place, it's always smart to practice good hygiene; remember to wash your hands, cough into your elbow, and take proper care of yourself if you feel unwell.



Erica Bencivenga, Nancy Engelhardt, Alex Wilde, Todd Plantier, Tim Weiland, April Slauson, Lisa Tyler and Christina Plantier.

Pastor Rowold and Jeff Mann, de facto.

Anyone interested in joining the committee or if you have any concerns or suggestions, please do not hesitate to reach out to any Committee Members.



HONORING 27 YEARS OF SERVICE: THANK YOU CAROL SANTORO...

Dear Members of Cheshire Lutheran Church.

We gather with mixed emotions to bid farewell to our dedicated Office Administrator, Carol Santoro, as she concludes an incredible 27 years of service to our congregation. Her impact on our Church Family has been immeasurable, and, as we celebrate her journey, let's reflect on her enduring contributions.

Carol started her role as Office Admin. in 1996 and has been a steadfast presence ever since. Her commitment, kindness, and efficiency have left a lasting impression. From event coordination to communication management, she embodied the spirit of service, making everyone feel welcome.

Over the years, Carol tackled numerous tasks with grace, always going above and beyond to ensure our church operations ran smoothly. Beyond her administrative role, she offered comfort and support to those in need, becoming a cherished confidante.

While Carol may be retiring, her impact will remain. Let's extend our warmest wishes as she enters this well-deserved retirement, hoping it's filled with joy and new adventures.

Join us for a farewell gathering on Sunday, September 10, following the late Service in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate Carol's legacy, wish her well, and thank her for her dedication to our Cheshire Lutheran Church family.

With gratitude,

Beth Soulier Editor of the Heavenly Herald—Cheshire Lutheran Church

RENEWAL IN THE CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH CROSS GARDEN...

Greetings Cheshire Lutheran Church family,

We hope you have noticed the heartwarming story of unity and renewal that's taken root right here in our Cross Garden. It all started when one of the crosses fell – was it a coincidence or a subtle message? Regardless, this small event sparked something big.



With unwavering dedication, Todd took the lead, rallying our CLC team and embodying the spirit that defines us. Working together, we've transformed the fallen cross and Garden into a symbol of resilience and faith.

Thank you to everyone who played a part – though too numerous to name, your efforts have truly made a difference. The Cross now stands stronger, and the Garden reflects our shared commitment to each other and our beliefs.

Let's remember that our actions breathe life into our faith. Just as we've lifted up the fallen cross, may we continue to lift each other in times of need.

"In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps." - Proverbs 16:9









September 2023 Summer 2023





CLC celebrates the Rowolds 5 yr Anniversary at CLC and 20 yr Anniversary of his Ordination



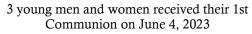








Volunteers did some clean-up work at the Parsonage on June 3, 2023







Quilts of Valor conducted Sew-Ins and presented beautiful handmade Quilts to our Cherished Veterans













We Baptized 2 Children into God Family



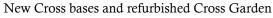
Memo

Wonderful food and fellowship at our Annual Picnic on June 11, 2023



































Lots of wonderful Summer Singing





Assembling & Delivering School Kits in August 2023









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



- CLC **Usher** Sign Up & Schedule
- Information regarding volunteers needed to run our newly installed Sound and Video equipment and sign up sheet
- Thank You Cards and other correspondence
- Hope Pregnancy Center 2023 volunteer sign-ups
- **Cheshire Food Drive** Volunteer info. and sign-ups
- ₱ 2023 Flower Chart Sign-up
- ₱ Monthly CLC Members Birthday and Anniversaries
- **†** Helping Hands Sign-ups
- Piano for Sale information
- **♦** Birthright Needs Volunteers
- ↑ NED News

Others looking for help!

- Fellowship Deacon needs volunteers to help make the events happen. Contact Pam Clark if you can help in any capacity.
- 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 to volunteer.



MORE TEACHERS NEEDED...

We have an awesome team of teachers who have heard the call and stepped up to help. Please join them. We want to add to our team, so each class has at least 2 teachers.

Please reach out to Tricia Rowold to volunteer to serve as a Sunday School teacher or substitute. Thank you.

THIS MONTH IN OUR HISTORY!...

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



September				
September 1959	First parsonage completed at 265 Peck Lane			
September 10, 1995	Pastor Charles Gustafson installation at Cheshire Lutheran Church			
September 26, 1957	6-acre site of current West Main property purchased for \$15,000			
September 20, 1953	Pastor Louis Nuechterlein ordination into the Holy Ministry for Christ			
September 2, 2007	Joe Ferwerda DCE installation			
September 22, 2013	Andy Schaefer DCE installation			



CLC SAYS GOODBYE TO A CHERISHED FRIENDS...

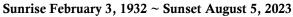
Sunrise March 30, 1932 ~ Sunset June 5, 2023

Rita Martha (Dobratz) Stark

On June 5, 2023, our beloved sister in Christ "*Rita Stark*" was called home to be with those that have gone before us and has been reunited with her Joe and Our Lord.

At Cheshire Lutheran, she was a member of the Women's Group, and organized the greeting card fundraiser. She also greeted people at Sunday services, and made apple pies for the fall fundraiser.

A Funeral service was held at Cheshire Lutheran Church on Saturday, June 10, 2023, at 10 AM. Rita's remains were lovingly placed in our Columbarium along with her Husband Joe following the service.



Charles Edward Rippel

On August 5, 2023, our beloved brother in Christ "*Charlie Rippel*" was called home to be with those that have gone before us and has been reunited with his Dorothy and Our Lord.

At Cheshire Lutheran, Charlie penned the monthly "Rippel Report" in the Heavenly Hearld Newsletter. We often saw him on Sunday mornings sitting at the Columbarium after services. Charlie was a VERY active and cherished member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Oxford.

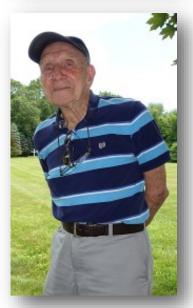
A service to celebrate his life was held on Saturday, August 12th at 10:30 am at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Great Hill Road, Oxford.

We join the Stark and Rippel families in grieving the loss of these devoted children of God and we cling to our Savior Jesus as we look forward to the day when we will be reunited with them and all the faithful around the throne in heaven.

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)

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

Matthew 25:21



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

The following has been recently added to our Website:

- **Vonderful** aerial drone video put to music of our beautiful church grounds
- The 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.
- 4 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 and more pictures from all our past events other miscellaneous photos taken in and around the Church by Tim Weiland
- ₩ Much, much more...





SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE REMINDER...

Sunday School will resume on September 10, 2023 with Rally Day! Join us at 9:10 AM. Hope you had a GREAT Summer!





OUR SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER LIST...

In case you have been away for the Summer, the Sunday Morning Prayer list was reset in mid-June. Please contact Pastor Rowold if you'd like a name added or removed from the prayers. If you have submitted a name to the Prayer list, please try to give Pastor periodic updates on the people we are praying for, especially if circumstances have improved and they should be removed from the list. We take great joy when we are able to take a name off the list for good reasons.



PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THIS NEWSLETTER A SUCCESS!! (October 2023 Articles are Due!)

Please electronically submit ALL articles and information to Beth Soulier (soulierbeth@sbcglobal.net) by Friday, **September 22**nd, 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!



WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS TO THE LORD'S FAMILY...

This summer we celebrated together as the following new members were baptized:

On Sunday, July 23, 2023 Kaia Christine Soklow was baptized into the Lord's Family

On Sunday, August 13, 2023 Claire Elizabeth Przybylski was baptized into the Lord's Family

We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.





NEWS FROM THE WORSHIP DEACON...

You are cordially invited to be a:

- ⊕ Reader
- t Usher
- 🕆 Greeter
- & Singer or Ringer
- Altar Guilder
- 🕆 Live Stream Camera Operator





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).

LESSON READERS for Sunday worship are needed! Please contact April Slauson for more information.

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.

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

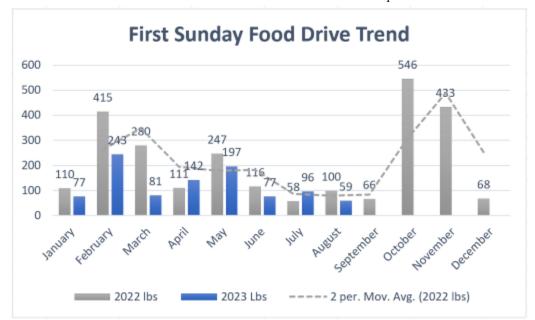
Contact Person: Paula Ongley





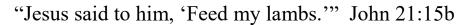
DONATE YOUR FREEBIES!

If you happen to spot an item at the grocery store selling at a special price "buy oneget one free", purchase it and donate the free item



IELP WANTED

The Cheshire Community Food Pantry, Inc. is seeking new volunteers to assist on Tuesday or Thursday evenings. Hours are 2:30-6 PM. Commitment includes a few weeks of training either night with current volunteers. Once training & orientation is completed, we could discuss the best evening and task you would like to be a part of. We are also seeking individuals willing to be on-call as needed. Jobs include shopping with clients, reception desk & administration, stocking shelves, sorting donations, and helping donors drop-off food. Ability to lift 30lbs or more is a plus, but not required. All volunteers must be 18 years of age or older. Please contact the Food Pantry for more information.





Don't let our First Sunday Food Bank donations fall behind last year's totals! Please note that the Cheshire Community Food Pantry is open Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9:00 a.m. until Noon and Tues. & Thurs. from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Please check expiration dates. We want to ensure the food we are sending is not out of date. Also, please remember that we cannot accept opened packages. Any and all contributions are gratefully accepted, including non-food items such as soap, tooth paste, shampoo, detergent, paper products etc. Tooth paste, shampoo, detergent, paper products etc.



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

01

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

Call for drop off times: 203-699-9226

MEMORIAL GARDEN & COLUMBARIUM NEWS...

The Columbarium Committee continues to communicate and meet regularly to discuss status of Inurnment Subscription and Memorial Plaque purchases.

Reminder to families and loved ones of the inurned, per our By Laws, kindly refrain from leaving items (flora, trinkets, etc.) at or around the Columbarium. While we understand this is done in loving remembrance, CLC does not have the staff to remove these items in a timely manner. Please feel free to discuss with any member of the committee. Thanks so much.

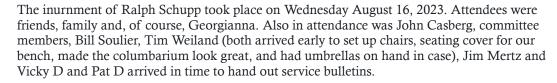
Subscriptions

- There are currently 13 of our CLC Family inurned in our Columbarium
- There are currently 29 inurnment subscriptions & 4 pending possibilities
- We have 21 memorial plaques purchased, and one pending possibility

The following congregants now rest in our hearts and whose remains are a reminder to remain steadfast in hope and faith that we will be reunited.

Saints Inurned In Our Columbarium

Marilyn E. Allesandrine (Jul. 31, 1939 – Mar. 21, 2019)
Judith Schnaars DiDomizio (Dec. 4, 1941 – May 10, 2021)
Richard Hagstrom (May 22, 1930 – July 4, 2021)
Edythe (Diddy) Izard (May 17, 1922—Mar. 7, 2023
Richard (Dick) Izard (June 20, 1921—July 4, 2009)
Philip L. Kenney (Aug. 4, 1927 – Nov. 22, 2013)
Arthur F. Munter Sr. (Feb. 8, 1929 – Jan. 21, 2018)
Mary Bianchini Munter (Jun. 16, 1929 – Mar. 11, 2021)
William F. Schmollinger (Feb. 9, 1924 - Jan. 20, 2007)
Carolyn R. Schmollinger (Jan. 13, 1929 - June 28, 2022)
Ralph Joseph Schupp (Nov. 9, 1926 - Sep. 20, 2021)
Joseph W. Stark (June 17, 1932 - Dec. 31, 2021)
Rita Martha Stark (Mar. 30, 1932 - June 5, 2023)



Pastor, as usual, conducted a beautiful service, and it was clear, Georgianna was moved and very pleased.

After Georgianna took a moment at the altar inside CLC, Ricky arrived and the inurnment was witnessed by many, and most importantly, Georgianna and Pastor Rowold.

Consider this Beautiful spot for Memorial Plaque or to house your final remains.

For more information, grab a pamphlet and/or contact any member of the Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee. Please also stay tuned in the coming weeks for more information to our congregants regarding End of Life Planning...

John Mulvaney	Priscilla Mulvaney	Vicki DePaolo
Jim Mertz	Margie Mertz	Randy Raddatz
Pat DiDomizio	Bill Soulier	Beth Soulier
Barbara Carson	Tim Weiland	Ed Schweizer







News from Our Youth Deacon...

Hi everyone, I hope you all enjoyed your summer and are ready for some fun activities this fall. Over the summer; we had one family game/movie night where we played some board games (I particularly like the Taco, Cat, Goat card game that had people drumming on the table and making unicorn horns on their heads; you had to be there...) and we watched "Sing 2."

Sunday School begins with Rally Day on September 10th and regular Sunday school lessons will begin the following Sunday. For the High Schoolers, we meet in the Youth Room and don't necessarily have a lesson plan, but, instead, talk about issues that affect them daily and re nere. we care. how God and the church can play an important role in their lives. I strongly encourage all the Youth to join us; the more participants, the better the conversations! We will also be discussing some activities they would like to do, so please come and let's plan some fun

Some ideas for the fall and winter:

- Bowling and bring a friend. I offered this up in the spring and I'm going to offer it again this
- ŧ Zip lining through the woods at The Adventure Park at Storrs.
- Axe throwing. We did this last year and I know Grace (both of them) want to do it again, so let's!
- Pumpkin carving. I can carve a mean pumpkin, can you? How about we carve some pumpkins at church and you take them home for Halloween?



We Care

The Youth Room now has a TV on the wall and a Wii game system set up. Unfortunately, we don't have any games for the Wii or any other game systems so I'm asking if anyone has some Wii games or other game systems, they would like to donate to the Youth Room? I would love to have a video game day for the Youth, so please let me know if you have a system at home that you are no longer using.

Thank you all for your support and donations to the Youth Group! Andy Clark Youth Deacon



USE HIS MONEY WISELY....

When the master gave his servants money to keep in his absence, he expected them to use it wisely. One wise use of the money the Lord gives us is to invest it with Church Extension Fund. Not only will it grow through interest, it will also be used to help congregations grow as they build, improve, and expand worship and educational facilities. Through LCEF, you can use the Master's gifts wisely. Call 1-800-THE-LCEF (843-5233) for more information.



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.

A BLESSED 70 YEARS OF MINISTRY...



Come join us as we celebrate Pastor Neuchterlein's 70th anniversary of his ordination at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington on October 15th from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.. The celebration will start with an hour of appetizers, where folks can mingle and enjoy fellowship, followed by a sit-down meal and ending with some special speakers, remembrances and presentations. Join us for this momentous occasion as we thank God for blessing us all these years.

Invitations will be mailed out to all current members and special guests by September 1^{st,} so be sure to look for yours in the mail. If you don't receive one or are not a current member and would like to attend, please contact the office as we will not be selling tickets

at the door. Cost for this event is \$62 per person and checks should be made out to CLC. We ask that everyone please RSVP by September 22nd so we can give the Aqua Turf a head and meal count.



"You shall walk in all the way which the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you will possess."

Deuteronomy 5:33



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 baby 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.

Hope Pregnancy Center 110 Main St. Cheshire, CT 06410 203.271.2703 hopepregnancycenterct.org

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.









Our Sincere Appreciation



- Pam Clark our Fellowship Deacon, wishes to thank all the volunteers who enhanced our Summer Sunday worship with Lemonade/Iced Tea and snacks. All the credit and gratitude goes out to the many hands that made our picnic go soo smoothly- Don & Diane, for the hamburgers and hot dogs, the condiments and beverage jugs and so much guidance. To so many more people that, together, makes our family at Cheshire Lutheran Church.
- Many, many thanks to Martha Medford for working so hard this summer arranging and rehearsing for all our Summer musical performances. And thanks to all those that enhanced our services with their beautiful voices and musical talents!
- Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers that made VBS this summer such a huge success!
- Special thanks to all that help to keep CLC grounds so lovely throughout the year. This summer saw lots of beautiful changes on our grounds for which we are eternally grateful. Special Thanks to Tim Weiland, Jim & Margie Mertz, Ed and Nancy Schweizer, Don & Diane Drust and Randy Raddatz. We are BLESSED!
- We all thank Tim Weiland and Bill Juul for their photo and video contributions to us all. We greatly appreciate you always being there in the right time and at the right place to help us relive the memories made with our Church family. Thank you!
- [⊕] Words do not express our appreciation to Carol for her 27 years of dedicated service as our Office Manager. We extend our warmest wishes as she enters this well-deserved retirement, hoping it's filled with joy and new adventures
- Another Thank You to Todd and The Team that worked so hard to install new bases for our Cross's in the Cross Garden as well as give the Garden a facelift. This includes another Thank You To the Meyers for spelling out CLC in beautiful flowers again this year. We are Blessed and we don't say it enough

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO RUN OUR VIDEO EQUIPMENT...

We have been enjoying the new audio/video equipment for over a year now. Special care was utilized during the purchase process that the equipment be easy to use for volunteers, including those with no prior background in sound or video equipment. Do you take videos with your

phone? Are you interested in learning more about audio/video and streaming technology?

Offer your time and increase your video talent and assist with running the new equipment for an 8 AM church service. You will be helping Pastor Rowold and our Service to go live on YouTube.

We will train volunteer staff on all of the equipment and help troubleshoot any problems that may arise as people master the system. Your efforts will give you new skills you can carry into other areas of their lives if you so choose.

Contact Tim Weiland or Bill Juul for details.





DO YOU KNOW THE DATE OF YOUR BAPTISM?...

Well, do you? Do you know the date that you were Baptized? If you do, we'd like to know it in the Church office too. We already keep track of birthdays and wedding anniversaries, including them in the monthly newsletters and the Sunday morning prayers. We are now going to add "Baptismal Birthdays" to that list too. Please contact the Church office to share the date of their Baptism. As we get more information we will add it to the list of those special days included in the *Heavenly Herald*.



WE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR BAPTISM:

- September 9 Katelyn Lynch
- September 14 Matthew Emerick
- September 10 Lisa Tyler
- ♣ September 16 Karen Weiland♣ September 24 John Sherman
- ♣ September 13 Brian Sherman♣ September 13 Judy Watson
- September 26 Nancy Engelhardt

Contact the church office to add your "Baptismal Birthday" to the list.





WE NEED SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS: "YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED!"...

Years ago, before I had my own children (late twenties), I was asked by the Education Deacon if I'd be willing and interested to teach Sunday School at CLC. I politely responded that I would consider the request carefully. However, I thought to myself, "I've never taught before, let alone children. I have no experience. What if I mess this up? I probably won't be good at it."

A few days later, I was traveling with a colleague on a week-long business trip across the country. We had become friends over time as a result of working together. Being spiritual himself, we got onto the topic of faith and religion. I shared with him the request I received from the Education Deacon, and his response was like having water thrown at my face. He said, "For all the things God has given you, this doesn't seem like an unreasonable request. You have been called!" Upon reflection, I knew he was right.

I taught Sunday School for six years—5th and 6th grades. It was rewarding, uplifting and an educational experience for me, not just the children. And, when a child shares his/her innermost feelings with their classmates and their teacher, you see firsthand how scriptures can connect them to their world. It's unforgettable.



And now, I'm the Education Deacon reaching out to you. Please help keep this evangelical mission moving ahead and energized. Tricia Rowold now leads the Sunday School ministry. She is and will do a wonderful job along with the teachers we have. But they can't do this alone. Please help us. We need you. You have been called!

Sincerely and Yours in Christ

Craig Wilson CLC Education Deacon





CLC HELPING HANDS...

The Helping Hands volunteers continue to offer meals, transportation and visits to those in our congregation who are in need of any of theses services!

Please contact the church office if you would benefit from this assistance.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have responded to my request to assist.

Sometime over the summer, please update your contact information with the preferred phone number (many still have the landline listed although it has been disconnected).

For those who haven't yet volunteered but would like to be "on the list", please provide your contact information as well as the service you would like to offer (food, drive, visit). You may reach me at sbschrumm@cox.net. Thank you and have a nice summer!

Sally Schrumm, chairman

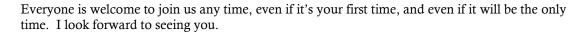
Bible Studies at CLC

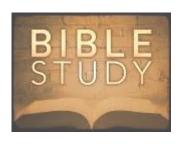
WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES...

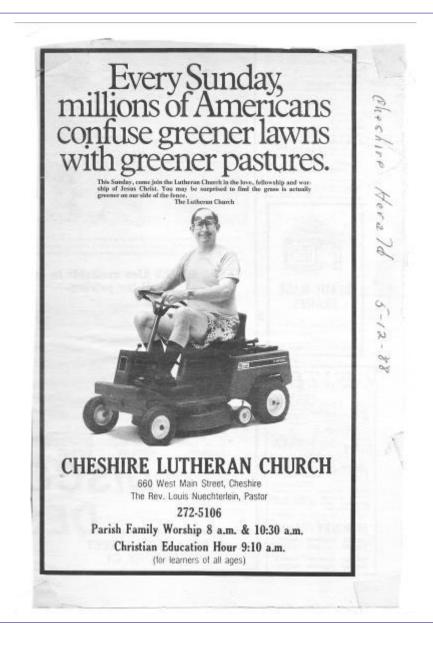
Come and join us as we dig deeper into God's Word together in Bible Study.

Sunday morning Bible study will resume for the Fall on Sunday, September 17th, at 9:10 a.m. Everyone is invited to join us for Rally Day during the Education Hour the prior Sunday, September 10, where we'll enjoy some food, some fellowship, and some Bible-based fun.

In addition to Sunday morning Bible, our Wednesday afternoon study of the Holy Gospel according to St. John will also be resuming on Wednesday, September 20, at 1:30 p.m. Our first lesson this Fall will be Lesson 12, titled "The End and...", which looks at John 18 and 19.







- Judy Watson
- Timothy Daly Christine Mason Joe Holstein
- Ian Clark
 - Terri Daly
- Sally Schrumm
- 12th Allison Smith
- 14th Alan Spose Lisette Donewald Wendy Emerick Ken Finger
- 15th Leigh Giampietro
- 16th Joy McHugh
- 17th Madelyn Veleber
- 18th Alex Muller Blake Feero Cindy Baker Frank Miller
- 22nd Nancy Schweizer
- 23rd Aliza Taylor
- 24th Derek Henderson
- 26th Heather Shepard Nancy Engelhardt
- 27th Erich Strunk, Sr.
- 28th Craig Henderson
- 29th Lisa Muller
- 500 P/300 P 30th Bill Juul



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

September 2023

- David and Sally Schrumm 50 Years 11th Jonah and Lisa Tyler 24 Years Thom and Dale Zeppieri 35 Years 12th
- 21st Julian and Lisa Muller 27 Years Peter and Rebecca Mayer 21 Years
- 25th Clifford and Paula Ongley 52 Years
- 26th Andy and Pam Clark 31 Years



COUNCIL AND VOTERS MEETING REMINDER...

Council/Voters will resume their meeting schedule in September. Council meeting will be held Tuesday, September 5th at 7:00 PM. September *Voters*' meeting will be held, Sunday, October 1st after the



Both Meetings will be held in person at Church and via Zoom











late Service.







