



CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN

AUGUST 2019



Austin Wolfe (14)	Aug. 1
Orlin Olson	Aug. 3
Jim Meyer	Aug. 16
Judy Carstens	Aug. 17
Phoebe Krause (5)	Aug. 19
Chuck Nicholson	Aug. 21
Mary Weich	Aug. 21
Rand Petersen (1)	Aug. 24
Roger Young	Aug. 29



Jerry & Linda Shaffer Aug. 31 (35 years)

PASTORAL ACTS

New Member

Mary Ann Knee, July 14
Installation of Women of CTS Officers, July 28

AUGUST WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolytes

4 Colin Broders
11 Katelyn Anderson
18 Delilah Broders
25 Austin Wolfe

Coffee

4 Al & Sharon Boelman
11 Brad & Kathy Rogers
18 BJ & Sharon Koepp
25 Dean & Doris Hoffart

Communion assistants

4 Linda Cyboron, Linda Shaffer
11 Shirley & Duane Theil
18 Gary & Mary Weich
25 Margaret Svitak, Megan Phillips

Communion bread

Kathy Rogers

Greeters

4 Mike & Nell Finkral
11 Dean & Doris Hoffart
18 Mick & Doreen Kullbom
25 Rich & Kay Jaeger

Lectors

4 Emily Svitak
11 Emily Svitak
18 Jo Roberts
25 Emily Svitak

Ushers

4 Warren Bennett, Danita Broders
11 Al Boelman, Dallas Puls
18 Greg Moen, Wendell Hahne
25 Doug & Pat Witte

Offering counters

4 Doug and Pat Witte
11 Nell Finkral, Louise Skoglund
18 Marsha Burke
25 Doug and Pat Witte



back to
School



August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	*Fri	Sat
				1 1:30 Quilting	2 5:30 Girl Scouts *Pastor out of office on Friday Office hours 8:30-4:30 Mon-Thurs. Fri 8:30-12:30	3
4 Pentecost 8 (T) Worship 10:00 Gerdes baptism Fellowship 11:00	5 1:15 Worship committee	6	7	8 9:00 Agape Circle	9	10
11 Pentecost 9 (C) Worship 10:00 Newman baptism Blessing of the Backpacks Potluck 11:00	12 5:00 Hospitality 6:00 Bible study on Genesis	13 4:30 Stewardship	14	15 2:00 Card club	16 5:30 Girl Scouts	17
18 Pentecost 10 (T) Worship 10:00 Fellowship 11:00 Mission/Ministry team meeting	19 6:30 Council meeting	20	21	22	23 <i>Kathy (vacation)</i>	24
25 Pentecost 11 (C) Worship 10:00 Hopkins baptism Fellowship 11:00	26 6:00 Bible study on Genesis	27	28	29	30	31
Sunday School begins Sept. 8						

Worship: T = traditional (Service of the Word)
C = contemporary
Paraments = green

Membership Care Team: Marilyn Woolard, Mary Lund
Altar Guild: Kay Jaeger, Kathy Rogers
Communion bread: Kathy Rogers

My Letter to the Congregation

“The ‘WHAT’ of Effective Disciplemaking”

What does it mean to be a disciple? And how do we know what a disciple really is? What should be the identity of every disciple of Jesus? How do you know if you are a disciple of Jesus? What are the signs of a life that's been transformed by the grace of God in Jesus? And how do you know if those you are discipling are living out the life of Christ?

In this newsletter, we delve deeper into the ‘what’ of discipling: what a disciple really is, the identity and marks of a disciple, the critical elements of effective discipling, a missional understanding of discipling, as well as the Kingdom of God and discipling.

Here are some of the barriers as defined by some leading Christian leaders:

“Even more than it's following certain rules or regulations or a path, this is Jesus saying, ‘Follow me. Enter into a relationship with me, become more and more like me. . . So being a disciples inevitably leads to making disciples.”

“Discipleship is being a lover of God and a lover of others. Because that is what a disciple is. . . Discipleship isn't the means by which I secure my salvation. . . Discipleship is the way that I respond to the love of God that is overflowed so extravagantly to us in Christ. . . the measure of the love that defines us and marks us out as followers of Christ is the cross love of Jesus (which is) simply unqualified and unconditional.”

“To follow Jesus springs from four implications of the word ‘follow.’ One, to follow Jesus means to live a radical abandonment for his glory. Second, they were leaving behind their careers. (You deny yourself; lose your life as you know it; no longer live for material pleasure in this world.) Third thing to follow Jesus is to live with faithful adherence to His person. Fourth, to follow Jesus is to live with urgent obedience to His mission. (Great cost for all who settle for casual association with Jesus and miss out on the abundance, satisfaction, and joy that He's designed for us. There's a cost that comes to monotonous routine Christianity – great cost for those lost in this world.)”

“We've identified six primary marks of a disciple: a transformed heart, transformed mind, transformed affections, transformed will, transformed relationships, and a transformed purpose for living. . . success in discipling comes down to other people who have become followers of Christ are now leading other people to become followers of Christ.”

“We can summarize what discipleship looks like: information, imitation, and innovation.”

(continued)

"Discipleship is central not only to the Great Commission, it's central to the entire Christian mission worldwide and in the entire Christian history. . . Discipleship takes intentional mentoring. . . The Great Commission is to make disciples, not converts. . . Once you are a disciple that does not mean the discipleship process in your life is over. . . I can see (several) conditions laid down by the Lord himself (take up a cross, forsake all, love one another, supreme love for Christ, bear fruit, don't place your hand on the plow and look back, obey, etc.)."

"We're good at making converts, but we suck at discipleship. . . Consumerism is an alternative religion. . . The content of discipleship comes from the life and teachings of Jesus and it's very specific, by the way. . . Discipleship is to be caught up into those amazing purposes of God in and through Jesus Christ. . . C.S. Lewis said, 'But the church exists for nothing else but to draw people into Christ and to make them little Christs. And if a church is not doing that, then all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became man for no other purpose. It says in the Bible that the whole universe was made for Christ and that everything is to be gathered together in Him.' That's what it is about."

"Discipleship is what God does to us to make us useful in His Kingdom, in order that every person on the face of the earth might be altered to the fact that our God reigns through Christ. This is your mission, should you choose to accept it."

Future topics will be:

- ◆ September – "The Habits of Highly Effective Disciplemaking"
- ◆ October – "The Process of Disciplemaking"
- ◆ November – "The 'How' of Effective Disciplemaking"

Continuing on the journey of learning how to disciple others,

Paster Steve

Sunday Worship – Sundays in Pentecost

We enter the last month of summer in the gospel of Luke as Jesus continues to “set His face toward Jerusalem” as He intentionally travels through Samaria with the good news of the gospel for all who will believe. Jesus continues to teach us what the Kingdom of God is like and how we are invited to participate in it as Jesus has lived and brought it into the world.

August 4 – (Luke 12:13-21) **Pentecost 8** (traditional - Service of the Word)

Be rich toward God, your treasure
Baptism: Maverick Kamdyn Gerdes

August 11 – (Luke 12:32-40) **Pentecost 9** (contemporary worship)

The treasure of the kingdom
Baptism: Serenity Joy Newman
Blessing of the Backpacks

August 18 – (Luke 12:49-56) **Pentecost 10** (traditional - Service of the Word)

Jesus brings fire on earth
Area schools begin classes

August 25 – (Luke 13:10-17) **Pentecost 11** (contemporary worship)

Jesus heals on the Sabbath
Baptism: Cooper John Hopkins

September 1 – (Luke 14:1, 7-14) **Pentecost 12** (traditional - Service of the Word)

Invite the poor to your banquet
Labor Day Weekend

Rally Day

September 8

Sunday school for all ages will begin with a Rally Day Celebration on Sunday, September 8, at 9:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. We will gather for songs, introduction to the material, games, and refreshments. The entire congregation is invited for this opening day of our Faith Formation and Development process (especially all Sunday school youth and parents and the adult Sunday school class).

The Journey

Begins in September (Tuesday and/or Thursday evenings)

Before Pastor Steve retires next June he will be leading one or two more Journey groups during the year. The Journey is a process of answering three primary questions: Who is God? Who am I? What does God desire to do through my life? As you read through my letter in this newsletter, it is quite obvious that Jesus expects us to not only become one of His disciples but also to make other disciples who will make disciples who will make disciples (exponential multiplication). Discipleship takes place BEST in groups. The Journey is a small group (6-12) who will meet for 22 times (three manuals of seven lessons) for 2 hours a week (homework reading of 2-4 hours a week). Cost is \$250 (three installments are available – if finances are a

problem, we have scholarships available). We have three calls in life: the general call (invitation to follow Jesus), the immediate call (what we do for a living), and a specific call (how God has gifted each of us for a specific reason). In The Journey we focus on our "specific" call in life by God. The class has an intentional time commitment and attendance is required (otherwise you will miss the intent and purpose of The Journey). Watch for more details in worship and next month's newsletter. If you have any questions, talk to Pastor Steve.

3-2-1 Small Groups

3 People Meeting for 2 Hours Once a Month

For those who cannot commit to a 6-7 month process like The Journey, a 3-2-1 small group would be ideal for you. The concept is simple. Three people (or four but no more than four people) commit to meet once a month for two hours (usually over a meal) for at least six months. There is a small paperback book on the back table of the church which explains the process and rationale. Another way to describe this group is for you to experience a spiritual friendship with others. It is your responsibility to invite two or three friends to join you in this experience together.

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I would like to thank my church family for the prayers and well wishes since I have had surgery. I truly want to thank Pastor Steve for the visit before and after my surgery and also for staying with my sister during my surgery. Thanks also for the phone call. I appreciate it very much. — *Joy Potts*

Thank you to Pastor Steve and our church family for all your thoughts, prayers, and cards after Chuck's accident. — *Chuck and Jeanne Nicholson*

Volunteers needed: We are looking for two teams of two to count offerings once a month; training will be provided. Please contact the church office.

Breakfast burritos—This fundraiser will go toward bringing members of Msaranga Mandaka to Christ the Servant in 2020. A bag of 5 burritos is \$10. Contact the Andersons, Peters, Skoglunds, Svitaks or Weichs to purchase.

When giving to the following, please make checks payable to CTS Designated Giving: Tanzania, Good Samaritan, Memorials, Missions/Growth, Kitchen/Special Projects, Worship, Holiday Boutique, Emergency Fund, Disaster Relief.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Giving is an important part of being a Christian. There are many reasons to give, and the following will help people understand the importance of giving:

Giving gives us the opportunity to experience the joy in giving. As nice as it is to get gifts, it is even more meaningful to give them. When we give, we quickly discover true joy. In Acts 20:35 Jesus said, "*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*"

Christ the Servant Council Meeting
July 15, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Steve Jessen, Jan Puls, Emily Svitak, Warren Bennett, Al Boelman, Pastor Steve Lund, Doug Witte, Steve Morton, Mike Finkral, Bob Lutz, Steve Freese

Steve Jessen opened the meeting with prayer and a devotion from 'My Utmost for His Highest' by Oswald Chambers about reconciliation, both individual and corporate. We as a church should be collectively reconciled to Christ, not self-seeking, but Christ-seeking.

Approval of Agenda Items

- Al Boelman brought up the topic of a bad window at the parsonage.
- Warren Bennett brought forward the topic of carpet cleaning in the fellowship hall.
- Doug Witte moved to approve the agenda with the addition of conversation about the parsonage window and carpet cleaning. Warren Bennett seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of June 17th Minutes

Steve Morton moved to approve the minutes as presented. Jan Puls seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Doug Witte raised a question about what the 'reconciliation discrepancies' are on the 'Budget vs. Actual Report'. Jan Puls will contact Greg Moen in order to ask for understanding on what this could be.

Doug Witte raised a question about the local benevolence, which was approved for 1% of regular giving. The budgeted amount has been surpassed, and the question raised is does the 1% continue to be given, or because the budgeted 'amount' based on expected income has been surpassed, is the local benevolence 'capped'.

Steve Freese moved to approve/receive the financial report. Jan Puls seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Materials are being put together for the upcoming year of confirmation class. New materials will be purchased.

There will be four baptisms coming up in the next couple months.

Pastor Steve will be focusing on 'Sticky Faith' with the seniors this coming year.

Steve has been talking to several people about a discipleship ministry team.

New 'Journey' classes will be starting. He is also encouraging the use of the '3-2-1' booklet.

The LCMC gathering this year is in Omaha in October. Steve would like to see several members go and participate.

Doug Witte moved to accept Pastor Steve's letter of retirement that states his plan to retire at the end of June 2020. Al Boelman seconded. Motion carried.

Steve Jessen suggested putting this on next month's next month new business agenda for further discussion.

Old Business

Steve Jessen does not yet have a financial report on Day Camp because billing has not yet been completed. This will be presented at next month's meeting.

(continued)

Updates on Summer Planning Groups:

Doug Witte and Al Boelman presented a rough draft for Memorial Fund Committee By-Laws. They are asking for some feedback from council members at next month’s meeting so that the by-laws could be adopted.

Steve Morton and Jan Puls spoke on the ‘policy for special funds’. They will continue to work on finding resources as examples and moving forward in creating a document by August.

Warren Bennett shared about his working with Wanda Muhs on the kitchen remodel. Some suggestions have been taken as far as things that could be done/re-done. Michelle Anderson has offered to help on the committee.

New Business

Timeline for 2020 budget proposal: Further discussion will come. The timeline will be reliant upon the transition process. Steve Jessen will be making contact with possible organizations to help in the transition and will report back with the information he finds.

Parsonage window: Al Boelman was contacted about the back window in the parsonage. A window has been offered by Wanda Muhs to replace that back window, and the church would just be responsible for the labor. However, with the considerations of the upcoming transition, this may be put on hold for the moment.

Carpet cleaning: The discussion of carpet cleaning had been table until after Day Camp took place. Warren Bennett will get some estimates and a decision will be made next month.

Upcoming Events

- Pastor’s vacation (July 18-23)
- September 4 – Confirmation starts
- September 8 – return to Setting One in LBW
- September 29 – October 2 (LCMC National Gathering in Omaha)
- October 26 – Holiday Boutique

Future Agenda Items for Discussion

- Beginning transition preparations
- Doug Witte brought forward the question of security of the church building. Steve Jessen will check into resources and further discussion will follow.
- Insurance renewal

Jan Puls closed with prayer.

Doug Witte moved to adjourn the meeting.

Jan Puls seconded. Motion carried.

Next month’s meeting will be August 19th.

	Jul 10, 19
Designated Giving Checking Acct	
DG Church Emergency Fund	8,619.35
DG Disaster Relief Fund	100.00
DG Good Samaritan Fund	1,555.00
DG Holiday Boutique Fund	2,426.70
DG Memorials	12,018.42
DG Missions/Growth	3,320.71
DG Special Projects (Kitchen)	4,246.02
DG Tanzania Travel	1,421.00
DG Worship Fund	2,323.47
Interest-Designated Checking	13.63
Total Designated Giving Checking Acct	36,044.30
General Checking	43,884.06

Women of Christ the Servant
Annual Gathering
July 1, 2019

Tammy Buckendahl opened our meeting with prayer.

Margaret gave a brief introduction on gathering.

Refreshments were served by the board members. Afterwards we met in the sanctuary to view the video of the women of Tanzania and the sewing machines that had been donated with money raised by our women and the women of the American Lutheran Church in Illinois.

Emily Svitak lead us in a word study. The word was Koinoia. This word occurs 20 times in the Bible. It means the Christian fellowship of a body of believers, the community or communion and relationship with each other and with their Lord.

A scripture verses was voted on for the new year. 1 Peter 4: 10 was chosen and approved by the majority. (Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.)

Margaret updated us with the treasurer's report. The Blessed and Be Blessed sale raised \$638.84. Shirley Theil moved that the whole amount be donated to the Orphan Grain Train, as there is still need from the floods. Linda Miller motioned to accept, Julie Freese seconded. Motion approved.

Shirley Theil and Linda Sheppard requested that as outgoing co-presidents that any money that would be used as a gift be donated to the money raised for travel of those coming here from Tanzania. Mary Lund moved to donate \$100. Emily Svitak seconded and motion was approved.

Election of officers were held. Shirley Theil and Linda Sheppard are the outgoing co-presidents. The current vice-president Tammy Buckendahl moves to president. Julie Freese was elected vice-president. Margaret Svitak remains as treasurer. Tama Krause was elected as secretary.