



CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN

SEPTEMBER 2020

Happy Birthday

9/1	Arlis Lind
9/2	Linda Shaffer
9/3	Lonnie Svitak
9/5	Dan Meyer
9/7	Dean Hoffart
9/7	Blake Moen
9/13	Doris Hoffart
9/14	Al Boelman
9/14	Donna Reich
9/15	Wendell Hahne
9/15	Laura Kowalski
9/26	Matt Morton
9/30	Abbey Buettgenbach

Happy Anniversary

9/13	Andy and Carmen Wolfe
9/15	Duane and Shirley Theil
9/18	Richard and Cherlyn Hillrichs
9/26	Dennis and Donna Reich

Volunteers Needed

We are seeking two teams of two to count our offerings once a month. Training will be provided; contact the church office.

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you for your donation of \$237.44 to Mercy Meals. May God bless you. Stay safe and healthy.

Rhonda Wrenholt
Executive Director

Special thanks to the people who have left bags of material and insides for our Lutheran World Relief quilts. Also thanks to the people who continue to keep our cart full in the fellowship hall for the Food Pantry. We are blessed to be a blessing!

Doris Hoffart

Christ the Servant Semi-Annual Meeting

August 9, 2020, 9:50 a.m.

Pastor Dennis opened with prayer. Steve Jessen shared that we are here to do the business of the Lord, being the church and having relationship with Him. He shared from 'My Utmost for His Highest' about Lazarus. The heart of the message he shared is that if the Son of God has been formed in me, God will hear my prayers. But we must see that the Son of God is being worked out in my life. Is the Lord being satisfied with how He is being exhibited in our lives?

Business: Election of Officers

We had four vacancies to be filled. Tara Peters agreed to step in to finish Jan Puls position of treasurer, and Brian Anderson agreed to fill Steve Morton's vacancy. The nominees to fill the other vacancies were Laura Kowalski and Linda Shaffer. With no other nominations from the congregation, Connie Atkinson moved and Charlie Skoglund seconded to approve the Laura and Linda as board members. Motion passed.

Transition Team Report:

The transition team has been meeting weekly to prayer. They are working on organizing cottage meetings to try to bring the church into unity and meeting needs of congregation members as we begin the search process.

Richard Hillrichs inquired about a call committee being formed. And Steve Jessen affirmed that this is the goal as we continue to move forward.

Pastor Dennis ended with encouraging members to be involved in the cottage meetings. He read the Psalm for the day (Psalm 85:8-13). He encouraged the congregation that he is convinced that we will come through this pandemic stronger.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Svitak, Secretary

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 9 am PieceMakers 6pm Quilting class	4 6:30 Girl Scouts	5
6	7 LABOR DAY (office closed)	8	9	10 9 am Agape Circle 6pm Quilting class	11 Church reserved for wedding rehearsal	12 Brandi Mann, Caleb Donovan wedding (Pastor Steve officiating)
13 RALLY SUNDAY	14	15	16	17 2 pm Card Club 6 pm MOPS 6pm Quilting class	18 <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">CRAFTING WEEKEND</div> 6:30 Girl Scouts	19
20 9 am Sunday school 10 am Worship	21 6:30 Council meeting	22	23	24	25	26
27 9 am Sunday school 10 am Worship	28	29	30			

Altar guild: Nell Finkral, Connie Petersen

Membership care: Marilyn Nickols, Julie Freese

“What we've got here is failure to communicate” ~ *Captain, Road Prison 36—Cool Hand Luke*

Have you ever found yourself in the middle of a conversation with someone when you suddenly realize you don't have the faintest idea what the other person is talking about. It is like you find yourself in the middle of a Compilers Convention listening to a speaker discussing the necessity of lexical analysis and parsing in combination with semantic analysis and code optimization—Wow, talk about a failure to communicate!

Communication, whether it is verbal or nonverbal, is downright difficult. Humans communicate in a plethora of ways; verbal, body language, eye contact, sign language, paralanguage, haptic communication, chronemics (the study of the use of time in non-verbal communications,) and media such as pictures, graphics, sound, writing, braille, tactile communications, etc. No wonder communicating with one another is so difficult. Further complicating the issue are differences such as language, culture, and dialect; when you add that to the mix, it is easy to understand why people fail to communicate. To illustrate the point here are a few advertising campaigns that definitely fail to communicate.

The Scandinavian vacuum manufacturer Electrolux was embarrassed by lackluster sales when they used the following slogan in an advertising campaign in America: “Nothing sucks like an Electrolux.”

The name Coca-Cola in China was first rendered as Ke-kou-ke-la. Unfortunately, the Coke company did not discover until after thousands of signs had been printed that the phrase means “bite the wax tadpole” or “female horse stuffed with wax” depending on the dialect. The Coca-Cola corporation then researched 40,000 Chinese characters and found a close phonetic equivalent, “ko-kou-ko-le,” which can be loosely translated as “happiness in the mouth.”

One Truly Amazing Soft Drink. In Taiwan, the translation of the Pepsi slogan “Come alive with the Pepsi Generation” came out as “Pepsi will bring your ancestors back from the dead.”

When Parker Pen marketed a ballpoint pen in Mexico, its ads were supposed to say “It won't leak in your pocket and embarrass you.” However, the company's mistakenly thought the Spanish word “embarazar” meant embarrass. Instead the ads said that “It won't leak in your pocket and make you pregnant.”

The old Kentucky Fried Chicken slogan “finger-lickin' good” came out as “eat your fingers off” in Chinese.

Failing to communicate is understandable when it comes to language issues; but what I have come to realize is that other languages are probably the least of our communication problems. Take a look at these communication confusions from high school students around the country. I think some of these students will have bright futures as language translators for multinational marketing firms.

She had a deep, throaty, genuine laugh, like that sound a dog makes just before it throws up. Her vocabulary was as bad as, like, whatever.

The little boat gently drifted across the pond exactly the way a bowling ball wouldn't.

The hailstones leaped from the pavement, just like maggots when you fry them in hot grease.

He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck, either, but a real duck that was actually lame, maybe from stepping on a land mine or something.

He was deeply in love. When she spoke, he thought he heard bells, as if she were a garbage truck backing up.

By now, you are probably wondering what this is all about. Well, I'm glad you asked since I am going to tell you even if you didn't ask. As a pastor, I am often amazed at how difficult it is to effectively convey certain nuances and distinctions of some biblical texts, especially those related to the ancient languages and cultures. But it is not just theology that is difficult to convey, sometimes just communicating with people on a daily basis offers plenty of opportunities for communication failures. It seems to me that when communicating, be it verbal or non-verbal, theological or secular, informational or conceptual—regardless of its nature—it will be misunderstood, misinterpreted, misconstrued, misheard, misread, mistaken, misjudged, miscalculated or just flat-out taken the wrong way. No matter how hard we try to effectively convey our thoughts, odds are someone isn't going to get it. The words of Strother Martin, who played Captain, in the movie Cool Hand Luke, hit the nail on the head when he says, "What we've got here is failure to communicate. Some men you just can't reach."

Perhaps that is why God gave us the Holy Spirit. Romans 8:26 tells us, "the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words." Thank you, Lord, for the Holy Spirit—at least someone understands!

Quotes from "Good Quotes.info" website and the "Writing English" website by Judy Rose.

Christ the Servant Council Meeting
August 17, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Pastor Dennis, Steve Jessen, Warren Bennett, Emily Svitak, Sharon Koeppel, Brian Anderson, Tara Peters, Laura Kowalski, Linda Shaffer

Absent: Chuck Nicholson

Warren opened the meeting with a devotion from 'My Utmost for His Highest' on Colossians 1:15 It spoke about making room for God, not expecting Him to come in a certain way, but being ready for Him to come how He desires. We can expect Him to come/move, but it may not be in a way we think He ought to come.

Receiving of Minutes/Financial Reports

With no amendments to the reports, Warren Bennett moved and Tara Peters moved to accept them. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Dennis is working to put together letters to send to confirmation students and parents. He will be planning to contact Judy Carstens and work with Laura Kowalski in planning for Sunday School.

Worship committee met and planned traditional services for the remainder of the church calendar. He shared the spread sheet that was created in that planning.

Parsonage Update: Appliances at the parsonage are in need of replacing.

(continued on next page)

Committee Reports

Building/Grounds: Warren shared some estimates for appliances at the parsonage. A dishwasher would be \$700-\$800. The stove/oven would be around \$600-\$1000. He will look at some estimates for redoing cabinets and other updates. Discussion about where the money would come from followed. It was agreed upon that we will put a message out to the congregation of the need and maybe take a special offering to cover the costs. The goal of funds needed as of now is \$2,000. If needed, we will look forward to other options to come in raising the money. Bob Lutz moved to start a designated fund labeled the 'Parsonage kitchen improvement/appliance upgrade fund', with the goal of \$2,000 to replace the dishwasher and oven/stove to begin with. Brian Anderson seconded. Motion carried.

Mission/Outreach: Sharon Koeppel shared that due to Covid, not much has been happening as far as outreach. Meetings with Tanzania have resumed. Bob Lutz mentioned that he had seen the line for the food give-away at 'Community Action', and he posed the question of how we could possibly act to help fill the need in the community, not necessarily in combination with this event, but in general. Sharon Koeppel will look into this.

Worship: Brian Anderson mentioned that we have had comments/questions about putting Bibles/hymnals back in the pews. The council came to a consensus that we will put Bibles/hymnals back in pews because the waiting period between services should be long enough that any possible virus on the material would not survive.

Discipleship: Laura Kowalski has been looking into possible curriculum for the Sunday School year. She would love to see plans made to prepare well for the year, possibly combining grades, but not continuing with K-6 as one large group. Linda Shaffer is willing to help in organizing.

Fellowship/Hospitality: Tara Peters shared that the team met in order to do some planning for Rally Day/Pastor Steve's celebration. There are concerns with having such a large gathering with Covid as it is right now. Steve Jessen will talk to Pastor Steve this week about what the gathering will look like and if the date needs to change/adjust due to Covid.

Pastor Dennis shared that the Transition team is looking to organize cottage meetings (10-12 people hopefully held in homes) where the team can ask questions to help them build an understanding of what is needed for the congregation to move forward. One product of these meetings would be a congregational profile. This profile is important to have a good/true representation of the congregation and the community for a potential pastor to see.

Audit Committee: The annual audit has been completed and we will be receiving that report.

Sharon Koeppel closed the meeting with prayer. The next meeting will be September 21, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Svitak, Secretary

BANK BALANCES		Aug 5, 20	
Designated Giving Checking Acct			
	DG Church Emergency Fund	8,619.35	
	DG Good Samaritan Fund	1,455.00	
	DG Memorials	12,018.42	
	DG Missions/Growth	3,765.71	
	DG Special Projects (Kitchen)	5,080.21	
	DG Tanzania Travel	8,643.20	
	DG Worship Fund	2,323.47	
	Interest-Designated Checking	77.12	
Total Designated Giving Checking Acct		41,982.48	
	General Checking	63,494.95	