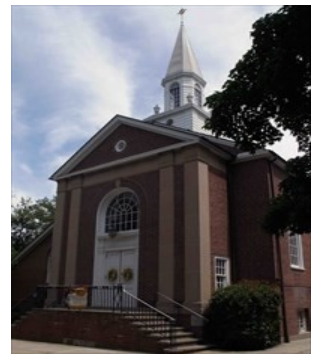




The Parish *Messenger*

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR
HADDONFIELD, NJ



Stewards of God's Love God's Love Comes Down, God's People Look Inward

In the January 24, 2021 devotional from *Christ in Our Home*, Shelly Cunningham writes: The world needs people who commit their lives to raising up followers of Jesus – pastors and deacons and youth ministers and faith formation directors. But just as much, the world needs people of faith who quietly use their gifts for the good of their neighbor as they strive “to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with (their) God.” (Micah 6:8)

God has blessed us all with some skill or talent. Maybe you're a teacher, nurse, IT tech or carpenter, and you use your skills every day in your job. Maybe you're a stay-at-home mom managing your household and your kid's time and talents. Whatever your abilities, how is your faith leading you to use those talents to help others in your congregation and community? St. Peter tells us in 1 Peter 4:10 “Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received”.

COVID-19 has restricted us over the past year and half on how much we can actively use our talent to help our neighbor, but hopefully with more people getting vaccinated things will resume some aspect of normalcy soon. When that happens, we want to be prepared.

By now you've probably received a Time and Talent Survey. Many of us are just waiting for the opportunity to resume our commitments to the varied ministries at LCOS. However, if you're new to the congregation or want to switch hats, now is the time. Maybe during the COVID isolation you've developed new hobbies or talents that you'd like to share with others. Please complete the survey and return it to church. Returned responses will be shared with the appropriate Committee chair and dedicated at the 10:30 service on Sunday, June 13.

May God bless you for all of the support you've provided to our church ministries in the past, and may God inspire you to use your talents to serve one another.



Pride Month Celebrations for June

LCOS will be celebrating Pride month in June to honor all LGBTQIA+ people. A committee has been formed to plan events for this first annual celebration. We hope that you will consider joining us as we embark on this journey.

Symbols: We will be flying the Pride rainbow flag at LCOS during the month of June. This signifies our support and respect for the LGBTQIA+ community.

Worship: Pauline will be selecting a hymn for each week of June that honors and celebrates LGBTQIA+ people. She has a collection of these hymns called “Songs for the Holy Other” which will be used to add this to our service each week.

Discussion: We will be hosting discussions of the ELCA Statement on human sexuality from 2009 and an episode of Queer Eye both via Zoom. We will hold two discussions of the statement so that there are options for more people to join us. You may attend one or the other or both if you would like.

The ELCA statement on human sexuality can easily be found by googling that phrase or by going here: <https://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Human-Sexuality>

The episode of Queer Eye can be found on Netflix. It is the first episode in the most recent season that was filmed in Philly! The episode we will discuss focuses on Pastor Noah who is a Lutheran pastor at a church in Fishtown.

[6/10 at 7:30](#) Join us to discuss the Queer Eye episode

[6/17 at 7:30](#) Join us to discuss the ELCA statement on human sexuality-moderated by Pastor Wayne

[6/22 at 7:30](#) Join us to discuss the ELCA statement on human sexuality-moderated by Pastor Wayne

[6/29 at 7:30](#) Join us for an Open Forum to discuss the celebration this year, ask questions and offer suggestions for next year's celebration

We look forward to celebrating with you in June! Any questions can be directed to Danielle Deery or Pastor Wayne

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a faith community that worships Jesus as our Lord, proclaims and shares God's Word, welcomes all people, serves human needs, and nurtures personal and spiritual growth through fellowship all to the glory of God.



"Be Not Afraid, Sing Out for Joy. Jesus Is Risen, Alleluia!"

By Pastor Wayne Zschech

With the CDC's announcement on May 13 that fully vaccinated people are virtually at no risk of contracting the Coronavirus nor of spreading it to non-vaccinated people, you could almost hear the collective sigh of relief in our nation. I know I did. For over a year we worshipped virtually and carried out ministry in Zoom-land to the emotional and mental exhaustion of many. We've worn masks, socially distanced, and sanitized for the sake of keeping the spread of the virus to a minimum and thereby loving our neighbor despite the inconvenience. It has been a long fifteen months of heartache, grief, and fear of contracting a virus that has killed millions.

Now that time is coming to an end. Yet, it is understandable to still be afraid of re-engaging with the public world. It's one thing for us to go without masks in our homes with others who are vaccinated or in our quarantine "pod." But what will it be like to go back to church, sit in the pew next to others, sing the liturgy and hymns, receive Holy Communion, and engage in fellowship with others now that the restrictions are being lifted for those who are vaccinated? We may even wonder, "Am I wrong for still being afraid?"

There is a Taizé hymn that is sung at Easter. "Be not afraid, sing out for joy. Jesus is risen, Alleluia." Our resurrection faith gives us the ability to not be afraid of death's "sting" in our lives as we trust in the God who raised Jesus from the dead. As Paul wrote in his second letter to Timothy "For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power and love and self-control." In other words, we need not allow fear to dictate our lives. And for those who are fully vaccinated this is now the time to trust the medical scientists and consider how we might reengage in the lifestyle we lived before the pandemic.

Last Sunday we had our first "fully vaccinated" worship at 8:00. I consider it the first step in reengaging in a pre-pandemic worship lifestyle. While we still wore masks in keeping with the governor's regulations, we did get to sing the liturgy and hymns. Participants were able to receive Holy Communion from me at the front of the church if they chose. Soon we hope to allow moving out of our socially distanced pews to greet one another with the Peace of Christ. During the pandemic we adopted different rhythms for worship and being the body of Christ together that included Facebook Live and Zoom gatherings. It enabled us to stay connected even while apart. Yet, I have missed being *with* you on Sundays and throughout the week for Bible study, faith education classes, and, yes, even Council and other meetings of the church!

And I know you have missed being together as the incarnational body of Christ as well. When I hear the laughter from Room 112 as our Mission Quilters sew and stitch together quilts for Lutheran World Relief, I hear the joy in their voices. When I visit the homebound to share Communion and the story of our lives together, I see the joy and relief on the expression of your entire face, and not just in your eyes.

I will still wear a mask, practice social distancing, and sanitize my hands when I am out and about in public out of respect and love toward those who are still at risk as well as be a model of what Christian love looks like in the final months of this pandemic. However, I will not let my past fear of this virus prohibit me from embracing and engaging with those around me who are not at risk of contracting the disease from me or I from them. We were not given a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, and love, and self-control. Let us live in that spirit as we reengage with our neighbors, co-workers, classmates, friends, and siblings in Christ's body in these final months of this dreadful pandemic. Do not be afraid. Peace be with you.

Minister's Monday Musings and Thursday Thoughts Resume in June

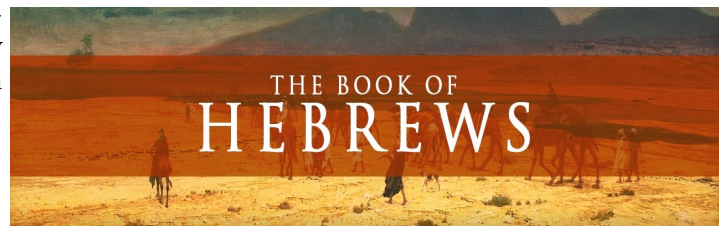
After a long hiatus Pastor Wayne will resume posting a Minister's Musings on Mondays at 11:30 and then a Theological Thoughts on Thursdays at 11:30 as well. They will be short little meditations or reflections on a topic that appears relevant to the time we are in. If you have a question you'd like Pastor Wayne to address on either day please feel free to send him an email (wzschech@yahoo.com) with your comment or question.

Book of Hebrews Continues - Bible Discussion for Daily Life

Join the discussion of the Book of Hebrews on either Monday nights from 7:30-9:00 or Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 by Zoom this May and June as participants discover how this "sermon" of sorts has everyday life applications in our journey of faith. Hebrews often quotes and interprets Old Testament passages as "oracles of God" and through them God speaks to present concerns in the community of faith. Hebrews often compares the new activity of God with God's dealings "long ago" with Israel, and by doing this repeatedly makes the point that what was good has been made even "better," because it has been made perfect in Christ.

The group will follow the following schedule of readings and topics. **Join either the Monday or Wednesday discussion group by clicking on the appropriate Zoom link found on the church main webpage.** Join us for the discussion!

Date	Topic	Reading
May 24/26	The new covenant	Chapters 7-8
May 31/June 2	MEMORIAL DAY – NO DISCUSSION	
June 7/9	Hold on !	Chapters 9-10
June 14/16	Examples of faith	Chapters 11-12
June 21/23	Life of Praise	Chapter 13





Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Lee Sargent, Mike & Arlene Stolarick, Dick Wilson, Randi Gordon, Shirley Stambaugh, Don & Caryl Wallace, Ethel Boyce, Doris

Iarossi, Sanders Family, Colin Lawlor, Amelia Marchese, Natalie Doherty, Albert Kern, Stephen Dempsey, Anne Hagner, Danny Korbumel, Michelle Mavis, John Rell, Kim, Lynn Hoppe Kaminski, Larry Thatcher, Scott Hansen, Tom Levecchia, Abby Phelps, Bill Getty, Faith Marum DelPercio, Glenn Marshall, Carmela Crawford, Natalie Parker, Kathleen Kelly, Jacob Berard, Keith Maull, Connie Verner, Jeffrey Gross, Judy Yerkes, Daniel Mandel, Susan Mazeika, Saunders Family, Ed Miller, Aasiyah Bey, Barbara Kerrane, Sandy Ferguson, Joanne Horn, Terry Mitchell, Ken Koehler, Rocco D'Alessandro Jr., Bette Roncace, Nicholas Juele, Frank Marche, Beckham Williams, Ed Clark, Col. Fred C. Anderson, Fred Moffitt, Lily Gregorio, Julie Bartlett, Jimmy Lombardo, John Daggan, Betty Schurmann, Elva Mastrando, Ryan Roberts, Ann & Len Jones, Chuck Atkinson, Sophia Campos, William T family, David Wenck



Pantry During Covid-19 Quarantine

Pantry Update: We are continuing the suspension of the Pantry process during the closure of the church. "Depending on the size of the family, we are sending out \$100-\$200 Acme Gift Cards to each of the Pantry Families on a monthly basis. The food items that have been donated are also being distributed.

Pantry Thank Yous:

"LCOS's Food Pantry is my life line. It is one less thing to worry about. I am actually enjoying going to the grocery store. Don't know if words can express how grateful I am for the grocery gift card."

"Thank you so much for the grocery gift card and bag of groceries. Everything makes a big difference. I really feel cared about and cared for. Thank you."

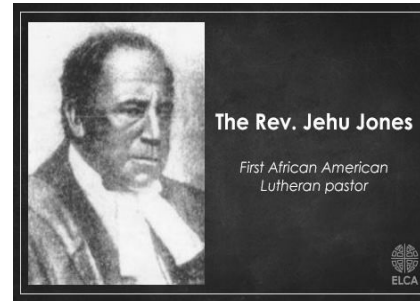


My Father's House Meal Delivery

After a year-long pause due to the pandemic, My Father's House meal delivery has resumed! Please consider volunteering to prepare a simple meal for the 15 women in MFH's substance abuse recovery program. Volunteers are asked to make or purchase a full meal (entree, side, dessert) and take it to My Father's House at 14 N. King Street in Gloucester City-- about a 15 minute drive from Our Savior-- between 9:30am and 4:30pm. If you are unable to deliver your meal to Gloucester City, you can place it in Our Savior's refrigerator by noon, and we will arrange for a volunteer to deliver it to MFH by dinnertime. Our Savior has been delivering weekly meals to the women in My Father's House for over 20 years-- We look forward to continuing this meaningful ministry! Please consider getting involved. You can sign up online: <https://tinyurl.com/hxejrv4m> - call 856-325-0496, or email kathyandgregwright@gmail.com. We also need volunteers who can drive the meals to Gloucester City when the meal maker isn't able to. Please reach out with any questions. Thank you! Kathy and Amelia Wright

May Council Actions Synopsis

- **PARSONAGE CENTRAL AC:** The Council recommended moving forward with using the Bott Major Repair Funds to install a two zone central AC system in the church parsonage as two of the main split units are no longer operable and the transition would save in utility expenses over time. Matching funds from Memorial Gifts will be needed to fully fund the project and will be discussed at their May meeting.
- **CHURCH VAN SALE:** The 2000 Church Van is being sold due to lack of regular use and better use of the Kathryn Davis Trust funds for ministry. The new owner is related to a member of the congregation and will be able to use it for their business.
- **CONFERENCE ROOM 112 VIRTUAL MEETING RECONFIGURATION:** Memorial Gifts will receive the two proposals to provide the capability for virtual meetings to occur in the Conference Room 112 in order to expand our member's ability to participate in ministry and meetings even if they are unable to attend in person.



Council Accepts Bishop's Jehu Jones Mission Challenge

At their May Congregation Council meeting the members accepted the NJ Synod Bishop's Challenge of The Jehu Jones Mission that includes

raising \$375 for a fund to support Black ministry candidates in the NJ Synod.

The Rev. Jehu Jones was ordained in 1832 as the first Black Lutheran Pastor in the U.S. He purchased two plots of land in Philadelphia at \$375 each for a building for his growing Black congregation. Jones lost the mortgage after his Synod refused to rescue the project for \$100! Even after calling him to ministry and commending him for his service, the Synod refused to support him.

For the symbolic donation of \$375 or more, each congregation will receive a quilt square, which represents a congregation's commitment to growing in awareness to the history of uncompensated loss in Black American history, accepting this legacy as responsible for ongoing disparities and injustice today, and moving toward action in Christian love. Congregations will send their quilt square to be combined in a large quilt and presented to the Bishop at the 2022 Synod Assembly. The Council agreed to invite the Memorial Gift Board to match their donation of \$375 as well as invite the congregation to make contributions of their own to be added to the funds intended to raise \$50,000 to support the lives of emerging leaders of African descent in our denomination today.

For more information on the Jehu Jones Mission and Bishop's Challenge Plan check out the information on the NJ Synod website; www.njsynod.org/bishopschallenge.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School: Thank you to everyone who participated this year in Virtual Sunday School. We will be offering Virtual Sunday School next year in the fall which will be in addition to normal Sunday School. It will take place at 9:30AM on Sunday mornings and will last about 15 minutes, so your child can still participate in Sunday School, even when their schedules get busy again!

This summer, I will be offering a weekly Sunday School lesson that will be emailed to any family that is interested. Please email me at LCOSJAIME@GMAIL.COM, to let me know you want to receive these emails.



Youth Group: Congratulations to all of 2021 Seniors! I am so proud of all of you and cannot wait to see what your future holds for you!

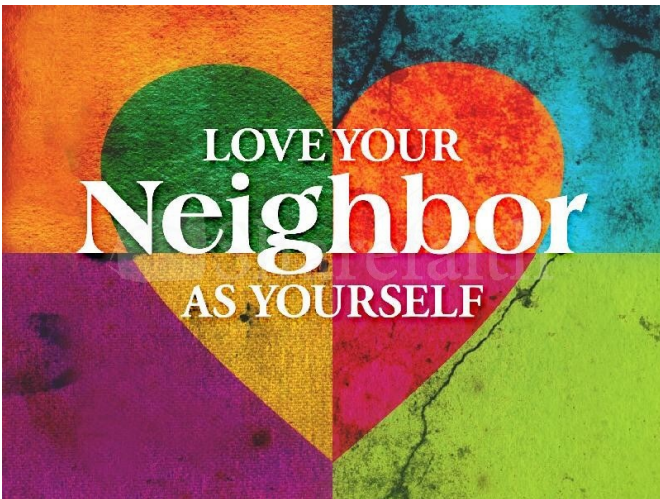
We will be taking a break from meetings until the Fall, please keep an eye out for potentially meeting in the Summer.



Mission Trip: Mission Trip will be local this year and it will take place July 12-16th. You will arrive at church by 8:00AM and we will return by 3:30PM and will be going to our Sister Church, Bridge of Peace. It is open to ages 12 years old to 18 years old. We will be following CDC guidelines and masks

will be required. This year will be very exciting because we can connect to other kids that are a few towns over. You will not just be working to help with projects around Bridge of Peace, but you will be learning from the congregation too. If you have any questions, please let me know. Also, we will be having a Zoom Interest meeting on June 6th at 7:00PM. I will be sending a link out for it, but please let Jaime know if you are interested in attending. LCOSJAIME@GMAIL.COM.

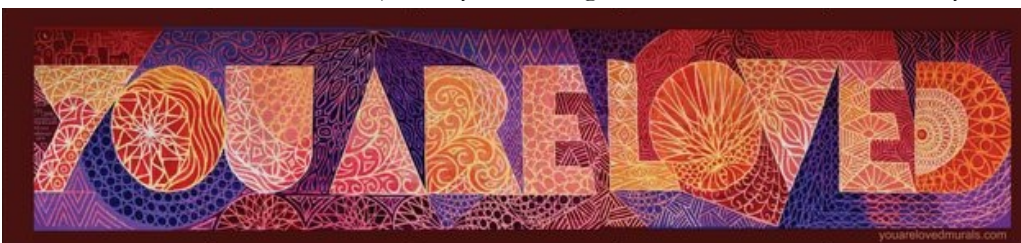
VBS: Vacation Bible School is Virtual again this year. Like last year, the videos will be posted on the church YouTube page for anyone who signs up. The videos will go live on July 26th at 7:00AM and you will have continual access to them. The program is open to all kids 3 years old to going into 6th grade. Please let me know if your child is interested in participating. This is open to anyone who is interested. You do not have to be a member of the church to attend!



Relationships:

Over the last few months, I have been very intentional with my devotional and prayer time. I have been setting an alarm on my phone to do them after I put Joseph to bed. This past month I have been doing a devotional on my Bible App, the theme has been relationships. But the other day the Bible verses that went along with the devotional had me really thinking. The devotional of the day was "You Gotta Love Yourself", in the devotional it talks about how God reminds us that the Second Greatest Commandment is "Love your neighbor as yourself" Matthew 22:37-39. Let's look at this a little deeper, because we know we should respect our neighbor, and everyone is our neighbor, not just the people in your community. But the AS YOURSELF part, that had me really thinking. How many times have we been too hard on ourselves? I know I am, probably daily. I think "Did I spend enough intentional time with Joseph today?" or "I cannot wear that shirt, I do not look good in it!" Deep down I know I love myself and

I know my self worth. But do I show that to everyone? As a society, we are so quick to judge ourselves, but how can we follow God's second greatest commandment, if we do not love ourselves? So I challenge everyone, young and old, whom ever reads this article. I invite you for the month of June, to get a notepad or even type it up on the notes in your phone. But I want you to be able to see it daily, write down one thing daily that you love about yourself. I will be doing this as well, but I will start right now so you have an example. One thing I love about myself is that I am always there for my family, even on the hardest of days. I will not lie, it took me a moment to think of something that I love about myself. You do not need to share this with anyone, but I want you to always remember to love yourself and in turn, know how much you should be loving your neighbor! At the end of each week, I want you to use that list in prayer, to remind yourself that you are loved and you are worthy of all love! I hope this journey will help grow in so many ways. If you would like to share, I would love to hear about this journey! Have a great a month and remember you are LOVED!



“Wonderfully Made” Inviting Every Voice Into the Song Of the Church

One of the many reasons I love the sound of a choir is that it is the voices of many producing one piece of music. Most choral pieces consist of different voice parts, all blending in one song. Some may sing quieter and some louder (whether the piece requires that or not), but all are invited to join into one song, be it a hymn, a choir anthem, an oratorio movement, or something else.

The church should be similar – all are invited to bring their own selves, fully as they are, everyone welcome. We see it on many church signs and brochures, including our own – “All are welcome.” We say that everyone is invited to fully join our song, and yet there are so many who do not feel welcome to show up as their full authentic selves. Psalm 139 proclaims that we are all “fearfully and wonderfully made” by God, and yet some of us are afraid to show that wonderfully God-made self in the church. One of the communities often unwelcomed in the church is the LGBTQIA community, based on decades of many churches preaching the unwelcoming message telling them the way they were created (fearfully, wonderfully, God-made) was wrong – a message based on an incorrect translation and interpretation that still pervades to this day. They have not been invited into the song of the church, the body of Christ, the fold of God. I so often hear complaints that “young people have left the church,” but it seems to me that the church made them leave by not letting them join our song, by telling them the way they had been created wasn’t welcome.

So for the month of June, we will literally sing them back in. With a hymnal provided by the Hymn Society, called “Songs For the Holy Other” (reminding us how often we have “othered” those in the LGBTQIA community), we will close each worship with a hymn that celebrates the way that God created them, lament the way the world and especially the church may have treated them, and proclaim that we are all one beautiful, diverse Body of Christ. Additionally, our offertory anthems will focus on a similar message – if you are interested in being a part of the choir (we will record in advance, distanced and masked), let me know, we will accept every voice!

As we near the time to be able to physically sing in church again, I hope in June and going forward, you will raise your voice to physically and spiritually sing EVERYONE into the fold of God, who has loved and created every single one of us - wonderfully and beautifully made.

Senior Sunday

We often hear that the children of the church are the church’s future, but I believe that they are Church right now. So on June 20th, we will be honoring some of our amazing seniors, for Senior Sunday! For starters, Sophia Howard, who is graduating from Cherry Hill East and will be attending Rutgers New Brunswick in the fall, will be preaching at both 8:00 and 10:30 services. Sophia has served on Church Council as the Youth Representative and will be attending ELCA Churchwide Assembly as a Youth Voting member. Our church has never had a youth represented at Churchwide Assembly. We are so proud of her for stepping up into this leadership role and being an amazing mentor to other kids in our church community.



Also on June 20th, at both 8:00 and 10:30 services, some of the other Seniors will be receiving their final step in the Faith Stepping Stones; Stepping into Adulthood. To honor this step, we will be presenting them with their Senior Afghans, which will be embroidered with the Serenity Prayer, along with their Confirmation Verse. The seniors who will be receiving their afghans are Grayson Wright, Luke Riley, Sophia Howard, Daniel Cook, Kate Morris, Emma Warren, Reilly Rhodes, Seba Miller, Riley Needham and Ava Cottone. We are so proud of all of our seniors and their accomplishments! We cannot wait to see what the future holds for all of you! Thank you to all the seniors and their parents for having such a lasting impact on our LCOS Family.

LCOS Book Club

Date: Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 7:00pm
Location: TBA (hopefully outside)
Book: The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

While we all wonder how our lives might have been, what if you had the chance to go to the library and see for yourself? Would any of these other lives truly be better? In The Midnight Library, Matt Haig’s enchanting new novel, Nora Seed finds herself faced with this decision. Faced with the possibility of changing her life for a new one, following a different career, undoing old breakups, realizing her dreams of becoming a glaciologist; she must search within herself as she travels through the Midnight Library to decide what is truly fulfilling in life, and what makes it worth living in the first place.

If you are not already on the email list, please call (609-922-4973), email (sam.wentz@gmail.com) or text Samantha Wentz to stay up to date.



Messenger Mailing Helpers: Thanks to: Jane Evans, Laura Oakes, Janie Braccio, Millie King, Peg Olt, Caryl Wallace, Barb Standke, Nancy Dempsey, Kathy Ellis, David Foster, Joyce Drew, and Deb Hartigan for helping to assemble the Messenger. It’s been a long year and we’re so glad you’re back!

Congregational Support: January – April 2021

<u>Year</u>	<u>Average YTD Attendance</u>	<u>Total General Fund Offerings</u>
2019	198	\$ 150,614
2020	224*	\$ 146,100
2021	200*	\$ 135,321

* church closed in March 2020, since then weekly attendance is calculated using a formula provided by the ELCA: number of one-minute views on livestream multiplied by 2 to get the number of people worshipping by livestream, add to that number, the actual number of people joining the Reflections service by Zoom. Starting in March 2021, when church reopened, the “in-person” attendance at the 8:00 and 10:30 services is added to the livestream and Zoom numbers to get the total number in attendance for any given week.

Thank You for Being Stewards of God’s Love

Thank you to all those who are mailing in their offering envelopes or giving electronically. In these difficult times, Our Savior’s faithful givers are sharing their offerings so that others may know God’s love. We may be socially distant, but our faith and commitment continue to be at work in the world.



LCOS APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT

NARRATIVE:

Monthly Revenue and Expense are approximately on Plan producing a monthly deficit of (\$12,966). This result was anticipated as we draw down on our PPP Loan. We still anticipate our Revenue and Expense will be slightly above Plan with Income on Plan.

<u>FINANCIAL SUMMARY</u>	<u>REVISED FINAN- CIAL PLAN</u>	<u>APRIL 2021</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE 2021</u>	<u>YEAR END ESTI- MATE</u>	<u>2021 EST VARI- ANCE</u>
REVENUE					
Envelopes	412,300	35,616	135,321	417,300	5,000
<u>Other Income</u>	<u>57,600</u>	<u>2,010</u>	<u>46,755</u>	<u>56,350</u>	<u>(1,250)</u>
Total Revenue	469,900	37,626	182,076	473,650	3,750
EXPENSE					
Salary & Benefits	310,091	25,400	100,887	312,491	2,400
Property	50,000	15,571	20,062	49,000	(1,000)
Administration	41,800	4,304	15,134	45,150	3,350
<u>Ministries</u>	<u>68,009</u>	<u>5,317</u>	<u>19,518</u>	<u>67,009</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>
Total Expense	469,900	50,592	155,601	473,650	3,750
INCOME	0	(12,966)	26,475	0	0

Counters Needed!

Since we are in person again (Yea!), we need Counters again. We only need two people and it takes about an hour each Sunday. Please let me know if you can count for a month. My email address is sgfoskett@yahoo.com and my phone number is 856.904.1828.




Thanks,
Shannon
LCOS Financial Secretary

June 2021 Regular Events

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
8:00 & 10:30 AM Sanctuary Worship & 10:30 Facebook Live 9:15 Reflection Zoom	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM Bible Discussion Zoom	10:30 AM Pastors' Pericope-Zoom 2:30 PM Staff Meeting	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Bible Study - Zoom			

June 2021 Special Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7:00 Social Ministry Mtg.	2 7:00 Book Discussion "How To Be An Antiracist"	3 9:30 Mission Quilts	4	5
6 Confirmation 11:45 W&M Mtg.	7	8 5:15 AM-8:30 PM Primary Election 7:00 PM Church Council	9 7:00 Book Discussion "How To Be An Antiracist"	10 9:30 Mission Quilts 2:00-7:00 PM Blood Drive in memory of Kurt-owner of Brewers Tavern	11	12
13 Baldwin Baptism Dedication of Time & Talent Surveys	14 <i>Flag Day</i>	15	16 7:00 Book Discussion "How To Be An Antiracist"	17 Messenger Deadline	18	19
20 <i>Father's Day</i>  Senior Blessing High School Senior Sunday/Sophia Howard Preaching	21 Last Hebrews Bible Discussion	22	23 Last Hebrews Bible Discussion 11:00-8:00 Mustard Seed Fundraiser at Passariellos	24 Messenger Mailing 7:30 Book Discussion/Sam Wentz -The Midnight Library	25	26
27 Barnes Baptism	28 Mustard Seed Summer Camp Begins 6:30 Congregation Resources	29	30			

The monthly calendar is subject to change. Please check the weekly calendar posted in the Sunday bulletin.



Simply Giving Online Options Updated – More Expansive

The Congregation Resources Ministry Team has updated the Simply Giving online options for giving electronically through our website. The site now provides four different groups with various funds for potential contributions, along with extensive options within each group for specific ways to support ministry at Our Savior. Check it out!

GENERAL MINISTRY: Supports the financial costs associated with regular program and staff ministry.

ELCA MINISTRY: Supports the various agencies of the ELCA, such as Disaster Response, World Hunger, and World Relief with a designation line if gifts given are for a specific disaster or relief kit.

SOCIAL MINISTRY PROGRAMS: Supports the various appeals for those in need at various times throughout the year, such as the Holiday Food Drive, the Advent Giving Tree, and the Pantry.

MEMORIAL GIFTS: Provides those wishing to give named gifts in memory of a loved one to make a contribution to the church electronically as well as contribute to the Dunkle Endowment, Patterson/Plotzke Education Scholarship Fund, or the Memorial Garden Fund to insure the ability to fund new and expansive ministry beyond the scope of the annual General Fund ministry.

Fully Vaccinated Worship Every 3rd Sunday of Month at 8:00

At the May Worship and Music meeting the team addressed the concern of some members in holding a fully vaccinated worship option so those who are concerned about contracting the Coronavirus could worship without worry. The Council approved the recommendation to hold a Fully Vaccinated Sunday Worship on the third Sunday of each month at the 8:00 worship time. Those who are not yet fully vaccinated are invited to attend the 10:30 worship time instead. Features of the Fully Vaccinated Worship service include:

- Singing of the hymns and liturgy (although still masked until the governor lifts the requirement for fully vaccinated residents)
- Holy Communion distribution from the front by the pastor. Please sanitize hands before coming forward to receive wafer and dipping it in the wine.

As the pandemic continues to abate as a result of increased vaccinations and state mandated restrictions are lifted, we will be expanding fully vaccinated Sunday worship to more Sundays in the month. It is our hope that by September we will be able to worship without masks and without any restrictions or limitations to participation. Thank you for your patience throughout this past 15 months. Be bold in the Spirit as we step out in faith, trust the science world with recent information, and return to our faithful living among God's faithful people, worshipping together, proclaiming the Good News, serving all people, and striving for justice and peace as Christ's disciples.



Beware Scam Artists Posing as Pastor Wayne!

To any and all who may occasionally receive a text message or an email from what appears to be Pastor Wayne Zschech that asks you to provide financial assistance to a person in need, **PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND TO THE EMAIL OR TEXT.** This person is a scam artist trying to fool you into purchasing gift cards or other monetary products that they can steal from you in Pastor Wayne's name.

PLEASE NOTE: PASTOR WAYNE NEVER MAKES REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OF INDIVIDUAL PARISHIONERS FOR THE SAKE OF MINISTRY BY EMAIL OR TEXT. When Pastor Wayne makes a request for ministry financial support it is always to the entire congregation and is done in worship, by letter, or through The Messenger. Thank you for your generous support through these difficult and challenging times toward the ministry we share and beware the "wolves" who approach you in "sheep's" clothing.



Mustard Seed Community Childcare at Our Savior Ongoing Fundraiser at Passariello's, Haddonfield

Mustard Seed Community Childcare held its first Dine and Donate Fundraiser at Passariello's Pizzeria in Haddonfield on April 28. We have scheduled a Dine and Donate there on the 4th Wednesday of every month through the Fall. So come on out, enjoy some good food, and support this important ministry.

We hope to have some other interesting fundraisers in the near future.

It's still a work in progress, but have you checked out our website? <https://mustardseedccos.org/>

Spread the word to friends and neighbors who might be interested in Summer Camp or the Kindergarten Extended Day program. We still have some yard signs left to help us get the word out.

June date is the 23rd.



Thank you to **Megan Chaiken** for our beautiful new Mustard Seed design and to **Ethan Quanci** our graphic artist who turned it into our logo! We appreciate your hard work and talent!

PACK A SACKS ARE BACK!

After taking a year off due to COVID the Social Ministry Committee is once again collecting school supplies for IHOC (Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council) so please don't throw out your unused supplies-donate them. We were able to fill over 100 backpacks in 2019 through your generous donations, and we hope to exceed that amount this year. Please pick up a shopping backpack on May 9th and return it to the church by August 22nd. You do not need to buy everything on the list, any donation will be accepted. There will be a big blue bin located just inside the Wayne Ave entrance for donations. Thank you in advance for your support. Any questions please contact Stacey Shaw 609-980-5547.



Toothpaste and Toothbrush Collection for Caring Hearts



Social Ministry Committee assists Caring Hearts families that are seen by Cooper Hospital's Pediatric Infectious Disease Practice. We usually support the seasonal holiday parties by providing baked goods and refreshments as well as a collected item (underwear, baby wipes, socks, deodorant, and gifts from Advent Giving Tree), and provide assistance at these parties. We also support Caring Hearts with a monetary donation in March and a special Christmas donation. We helped Caring Hearts prepare and provide food for Thanksgiving dinners for families served thru Cooper Hospital's Pediatric Infectious Disease Practice. These events were all cancelled in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Caring Hearts will be assembling tote bags filled with various personal care products such as shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, bars of soap, and deodorant that the Cooper staff will give to families at their appointments in June. The goal is to fill about 25 tote bags with these personal care items. LCOS has been asked to collect full size toothpaste (not the little sample toothpaste) and toothbrushes, at least 25 of each. A collection box for Caring Hearts is available on the shelves outside Parish Hall for your donations. Deadline is Sunday June 20th. Contact Betsy Kuehn or Eva Shaw for more information.





Memorial Gifts Fund Corner

We will be using this spot in the monthly newsletter to help keep the congregation abreast of the mission support being funded to various ministry areas by your memorial gifts.

Memorial Gift Fund is made up of many sub-funds and congregation members can make contributions or memorial gifts into any of its sub-funds. Gifts can be as simple as a check donation or as complex as a donation of stocks that have increased in value.

This month's focus is on the sub-fund called Memorial Garden Fund. The purpose of this fund is to allow members of the Congregation, Church Council and the Trustees of Memorial Gifts to accumulate funds to provide for all aspects of the administration, care, improvement and maintenance of the Memorial Garden. The Memorial Garden provides a beautiful, meaningful place where members and their families can be interred at their church home. It provides a place of repose and remembrance in a lovely sacred garden where one can peacefully meditate upon the lives of those who have died. We are blessed to have such a beautiful meaningful space.

If you would like more information about the Memorial Garden or this Fund- please contact any member of the Memorial Gift Board. We hope you will consider contributing or making a memorial gift to this fund.

MEDICARE & YOU

Understanding Your
Medicare Choices

As I'm sure you already know, Medicare, like all health insurance programs, can be very complicated. In fact, we found that over 50% of seniors enrolling in Medicare during open enrollment find choosing the right plan confusing, and more than one-third of seniors don't feel prepared to choose the right plan.

As a Medicare plans resource center (*Note: we do not sell or provide healthcare plans*), we've made it our mission to tackle the challenges associated with Medicare. We aim to:

1. Serve as a Medicare counselor, advocate, and educator.
2. Provide fact-based, data-driven, expert-reviewed information about Medicare and Medicare rights.

Advocate for and assist in finding actionable solutions to healthcare coverage problems for aging adults.

Our newly updated resource on Medicare in New Jersey helps guide seniors through all of the available Medicare plan options and provides a list of helpful community organizations across New Jersey that can further support seniors with choosing a plan that meets their financial and medical needs.

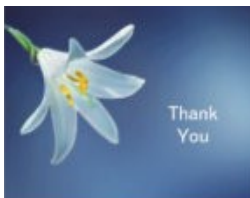
You can view the guide here: <https://www.medicareplans.com/new-jersey/>

Warmly, Janelle Ritchie, Virtual Care Advocate



Thanks for Helping Our Animal Friends

Thank you to all who donated pet supplies in April to help the Animal Welfare Association of Voorhees. With your help, Sisters in Spirit delivered to the AWA towels, blankets, sheets, a cat scratching post, pet food, cleaning supplies, paper towels and plates, plastic utensils, and office supplies. Thank you also to those who made financial donations. Your generosity reflects well on the compassion of the LCOS community and has made a big difference in the comfort of the animals who pass through the AWA program.

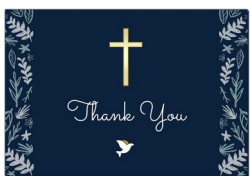


Dear LCOS Family,

Thank you so very much for the Easter lily, delivered by Janie Braccio on April 5th. Janie is a dear friend, so it was great to visit with her for a bit!

Again, thank you for the unexpected gift.

Love, Cheryl Schaffner



Dear LCOS friends,

We are so appreciative for all your cards and prayers, donations and flowers, and kind words during this difficult time. Your presence and support has meant so much to our entire family. You all brought us light during the dark time of Karen's passing.

With warmest regards, The Sargent Family

Worship in the Home Materials

Did you know when the pandemic started, we started sending Worship in the Home (WITH) materials out to those members who don't have internet access and couldn't tune in to our Livestream on Sunday mornings? Since this has been so well received we will continue to send these materials out on a weekly basis. If you would like to be included please let Sandy know: lcossandy@gmail.com.



Environmental Challenge

God's People and God's Planet and God's Animals



Wilderness is an essential part of our Biblical story. Moses' call to leadership, the exodus of the Israelites, David's character and reputation, Elijah's prophetic vision, John the Baptist's preparation to herald Christ, and Jesus' testing for ministry – all shaped by God through wilderness experiences. For us, the wilderness has been an essential place of refuge, solitude, and spiritual formation. Remember that Jesus and his disciples retreated to the wilderness to escape the crowds, to pray, and to renew themselves for their ministry. When we are in the wilderness, we are

given a deeper appreciation of God's creations.

“For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made.” ~ Romans 1:20 Note: some of the content has come from CreationJustice.org

Take yourself on a wilderness experience to rejuvenate our energies in this fast paced world. As they say, take a walk and look around for God's beautiful creations. Upon looking around be kind and help our Earth sustainability.

Be The Change God's World Needs

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior

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Worship 9:15 AM Zoom Reflections, & 10:30 AM Facebook Live

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June 2021 Messenger

Time Sensitive Material Enclosed Mailed May 20, 2021

Address Service Requested

Jun 1	Owen Oakes
Jun 2	Sally Cottone
Jun 2	Nora Deery
Jun 2	Kathryn Laughlin
Jun 3	Connie Wolf
Jun 5	Caleigh Brown
Jun 5	Brandon Quanci
Jun 6	Linda Nelson
Jun 6	Lexi Schaffer
Jun 6	Roni Schaffer
Jun 7	Karen Koval
Jun 7	Janice Meyer
Jun 7	Joseph Morgan
Jun 9	Daniel Cook
Jun 9	Lily Gallagher
Jun 9	Caitlin Hargrave
Jun 9	Donald Richards
Jun 10	Lori Giamboy
Jun 10	Haley Qualls
Jun 10	Jen Smith
Jun 11	Betty Giambrone
Jun 12	Aaron Demers
Jun 12	Brooklyn Mirabello
Jun 12	Jeff Spence
Jun 13	Ryan Lynch



Jun 14	Jeanette Leeds
Jun 14	Claire Newton
Jun 14	Andrew Pietrangelo
Jun 15	Lorraine Miano
Jun 15	Nancy Olsen
Jun 16	Bill Cowan
Jun 16	Lorraine Schmeck
Jun 17	Nicholas Newell
Jun 18	Patricia Ilves-Corressel
Jun 19	Erica Doyle
Jun 20	Connor Stine
Jun 21	Eric Broschard
Jun 23	Mary Elizabeth Glass
Jun 24	Sandy Graeber
Jun 25	Michael Fallon
Jun 26	Cheryl Hastings
Jun 26	Lee Sargent
Jun 27	Catherine Bare
Jun 28	Juhan Runne
Jun 29	Caralyn Baine
Jun 29	Michele DiGirolamo
Jun 29	Alianna Miller
Jun 29	Brooke Warren
Jun 30	Julia Kiewel
Jun 30	Ava Spence